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Weekend



SHOWSTOPPING SONGS

'Les Misérables'

barrels bombastically
onto the big screen **17**

'I LIKE WHAT I SEE'

**Shanahan brings
glad tidings** about
RGIII's recovery **10**

CAPITAL GAINS

The District booms,
adding 30,600 people
in just 2-plus years **9**

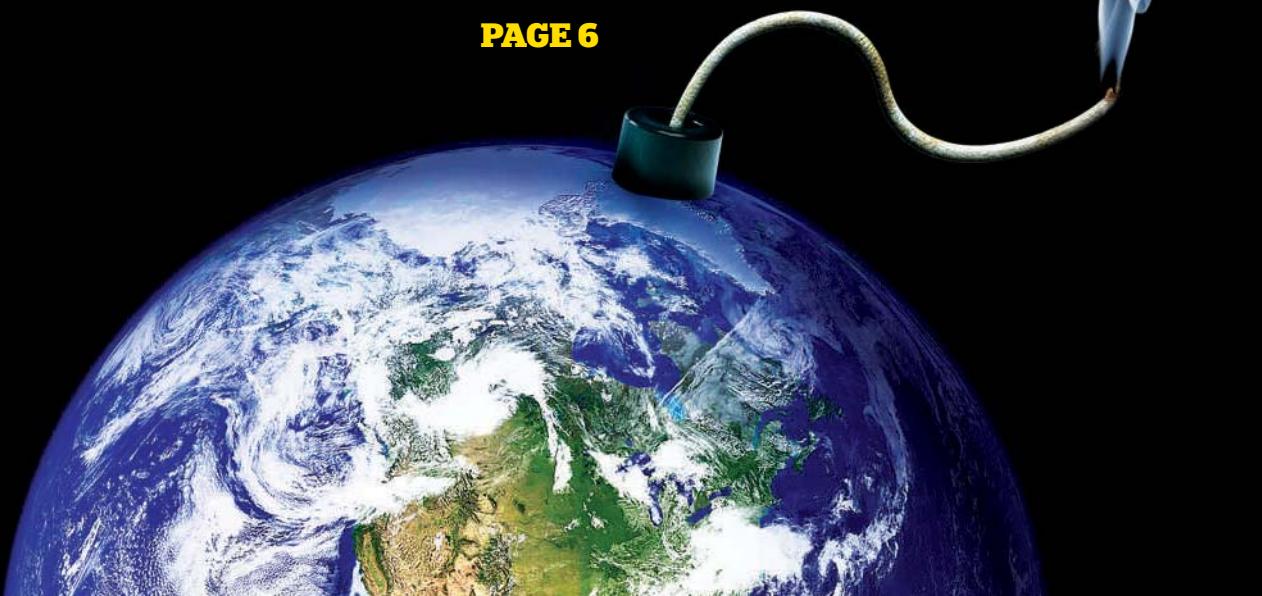


FOR EXTENDED FORECAST, SEE PAGE 29

DECEMBER 21, 2012 | A PUBLICATION OF The Washington Post | NEWS, ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS, LIFESTYLES | **FREE DAILY**

WORLD DOESN'T END

PAGE 6



THINKSTOCKEXPRESS/ILLUSTRATION

eo

eye openers

BREAK-INS

Police: Uninvited Relatives Don't Count as Intruders

Homeowners in Illinois say they awoke to find an intruder sitting on their stairs and playing with their cat. After telling Daniel Bailey, 32, to leave, they found their Christmas-tree lights on, candles lit, the living-room TV on and a half-eaten coffee cake on the kitchen counter. Police say Bailey — who also supposedly played a round of darts in the garage — ran out of gas, knocked on their door and went inside when no one answered. (EXPRESS)

FASHION ICONS

"If he was naked, we wouldn't be talking about him."



— CANADIAN FASHION GURU JEANNE BEKER, REACTING TO NEWS THAT DARWIN THE MONKEY — WHO WALKED INTO A CANADIAN BRANCH OF IKEA WEARING A SHEEPSKIN COAT — WAS NAMED ONE OF THE TOP FASHION ICONS OF 2012 BY THE GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER, THE SUN NEWS REPORTED THURSDAY

MARKETING

Beheadings & Backstabbing Name Nixed By Management

An upstate New York brewery is producing a new line of beers for the HBO drama "Game of Thrones." Brewery Ommegang created Iron Throne Blonde Ale to coincide with the premiere of the show's third season March 31. Brewmasters say the beers will be named to reflect the "themes and nuances" of Westeros. (AP)

The Big Picture



THIS PUTS YOUR CHILDHOOD CREATIONS TO SHAME: Christa Hanson poses with her 14½-foot-wide paper snowflake in Kanawha, Iowa. Guinness World Records verified that Hanson's snowflake is the world's largest, the Mason City Gazette reported Tuesday. Hanson created the giant snowflake, which is a perfect scaled-up version of the one in her hand, in a little under 54 minutes in front of a cheering crowd at Kanawha City Hall.

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From \$259 HP ELITE BOOK 2530P, 6930P, 8530P Core 2.2-2.6, 4GB RAM, 320 GB Hard Drive, Webcam, DVDRW, 17" wide format screen, Windows Vista Business	\$299 HP 6830S CORE 2 DUO LAPTOP Core 2.2-2.6, 4GB RAM, 320 GB Hard Drive, Webcam, DVDRW, 17" wide format screen, Windows Vista Business	\$349 DELL VOSTRO 3550 Core i3 2.1GHz, 4GB RAM, 320 HD, Webcam, WiFi, DVDRW, Windows 7	\$399 FUJITSU T730 Core i5 2.4GHz, 3GB RAM, 160GB HDD, WiFi, WINDOWS7	\$399 APPLE MACBOOK Core 2 Duo 2.0, 1GB RAM, 80 GB HD, Webcam, Mac OS X 10.6.8	\$449 LENOVO IDEAPAD N580 Intel B960 2.2 GHz, 4 GB RAM, 320 GB HD, 15.6 LCD, WiFi, Webcam, Windows 8	\$449 SAMSUNG 300 ESC-A09 Intel Core i3 2.4 GHz, 4GB RAM, 320 HD, Webcam, WiFi, Webcam Win8	

Newtown Funerals a Grim Refrain

As more are laid to rest, first responders grapple with grief

Newtown, Conn.

A season that should be a time of joy has been marked by heart-wrenching loss in Newtown, as more victims from the massacre of 20 children and seven adults are laid to rest.

Mourners weathered a fourth day of funerals Thursday, six days after a 20-year-old gunman killed his mother at home, 20 children and six adults at the school and himself for reasons still unknown. Mourners laid to rest Catherine Hubbard, Benjamin Wheeler, Jesse Lewis and Allison Wyatt, all 6 years old; and Grace McDonnell, 7. More tributes were scheduled for Friday and Saturday.

A service was held in Katonah, N.Y., for teacher Anne Marie Murphy, 52, who authorities believe



Mourners depart a wake for Jesse Lewis, 6, on Thursday in Newtown, Conn.

helped shield some of her students from the rain of bullets. Roman Catholic Cardinal Timothy Dolan compared her to Jesus.

"Like Jesus, Annie laid down her life for her friends," Dolan said.

Trinity Episcopal Church on Main Street in Newtown was filled to capacity for the funeral of Ben-

jamin, described as a budding musician and Beatles fan. His service included a rendition of "Here Comes The Sun."

While family, friends and even strangers weep, members of the emergency forces who responded to the shooting, many of them volunteers, are wrestling with frustration,

Moment of Silence

Gov. Dannel Malloy has asked people across Connecticut to observe a moment of silence at 9:30 a.m. Friday, which will mark a week since the shootings. Places of worship and buildings with bells have been asked to ring them 26 times. Officials and clergy in many other states have said they will also participate. (AP)

guilt and anguish as they receive counseling from a state intervention team to help them deal with the horrors they saw and heard.

Firefighter Marc Gold, who rushed to offer help even though his company was not called, said it has been difficult to find the space to process everything, and he appreciated the support he found in the group counseling. "My heart is broken for these families beyond anything I can explain to you," he said.

MICHAEL MELIA (AP)

House GOP to Vote On Fiscal-Cliff Plan

Democrats vow to let 'Plan B' bill die in Senate without vote

Washington

The Republican-controlled House pushed ahead Thursday with a bill that would raise taxes on people earning more than \$1 million a year as hopes faded for a pre-Christmas deal between President Barack Obama and Speaker John Boehner to avert the so-called fiscal cliff.

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., said the GOP has enough votes to pass the bill dubbed "Plan B" by Boehner.

"We, as Republicans, have taken concrete actions to avoid the fiscal cliff," Cantor said.

The Votes

House Speaker John Boehner worked Thursday to gather support for his "Plan B" legislation. The House was scheduled to vote later in the night—after Express' deadline—on that bill and a companion bill that would replace cuts in the Pentagon and some domestic programs with reductions elsewhere in the budget. (AP)

Democratic leaders vowed to let the House measure die in the Senate without a vote and urged Boehner to return to the negotiating table. As a grand bargain to avoid the fiscal cliff, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said lawmakers would return after the holiday to try again. ANDREW TAYLOR (AP)

Winter Storm Pounds Midwest



OLIN WAGNER/AP

MOTORISTS TRAVEL INTO A WINTER STORM early Thursday near Lawrence, Kan. The Midwest's first major snowstorm of the season was sweeping across several states early Thursday, shutting schools, stalling flights and creating treacherous roadways ahead of the holiday weekend.

In Brief

WASHINGTON

Census: Modest Growth For U.S. Population

The U.S. population is now increasing a bit faster, thanks to an improving economy, but not enough to lift growth above its lowest level since the Great Depression, according to new 2012 estimates released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau. (AP)

TRENTON, N.J.

Booker Eyes Senate Seat

Newark Mayor Cory Booker, perhaps New Jersey's highest-profile Democrat, has ruled out a bid for governor next year and is eyeing a run for U.S. Senate in 2014. The decision, announced Thursday



Booker

on Twitter, means Booker has chosen a possible race against U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg, a Democrat who is now 88, over one with Republican Gov. Chris Christie. (AP)

WASHINGTON

White House Defends Possible Nominee Hagel

White House spokesman Jay Carney came to the defense of former Nebraska Sen. Chuck Hagel on Thursday, saying the possible choice for secretary of defense has been a "remarkable servant to this country." (EXPRESS)

NEW YORK

Upstart Rival to Buy N.Y. Stock Exchange

In a deal announced Thursday that highlights the dwindling stature of what was once a centerpiece of capitalism, the New York Stock Exchange is being sold to little-known rival Intercontinental-Exchange for \$8 billion—\$3 billion less than it would have fetched in a proposed takeover just last year. (AP)

Holiday Schedule

Express will not publish Monday or Tuesday because of Christmas. We'll be back Wednesday. Happy Holidays!

World

In Brief



Islamists rally Thursday in support of the president at Egypt's Supreme Court.

CAIRO

Top Prosecutor Retracts His Earlier Resignation

Egypt's top prosecutor retracted his resignation Thursday, a decision that could cause a new uproar after he was accused of pressuring a judge not to release protesters opposed to President Mohammed Morsi. Talaat Abdullah, who was appointed by Morsi, said he resigned Monday "under pressure." (AP)

LAHORE, PAKISTAN

Pakistan Adds Police To Guard Polio Workers

Under police guard, thousands of health workers pressed on with a polio immunization program Thursday in Pakistan after nine workers were killed in the country by suspected militants who oppose the vaccination campaign. Immunizations were halted in some parts of Pakistan and the U.N. suspended its field participation everywhere until better security was arranged for its workers. (AP)

BRASILIA, BRAZIL

Record Coffee Harvest In 2012, Brazil Reports

Brazil harvested a record coffee crop in 2012, its Agriculture Ministry said Thursday. The country, which is the world's largest coffee producer, harvested 50.8 million bags weighing about 123 pounds each. (AP)

40K

The number of mistakenly minted coins Brazil's Central Bank issued a recall for Thursday, citing a production error that led to the erroneous stamping of 50 centavo coins as 5 centavo pieces. Local banks will exchange the flawed coins, which are the Brazilian equivalent of a U.S. quarter, with properly minted ones and be reimbursed later, the federal institution said in a statement. (AP)

A Health Crisis Spreads in Syria

Serious injuries to civilians spike as civil war stretches on

Atmeh, Syria

A baby boy joined the ranks of Syria's tens of thousands of war wounded when a missile fired by Bashar Assad's air force slammed into his family home and shrapnel pierced his skull.

Four-month-old Fahed Darwish suffered brain damage and, like thousands of others seriously hurt in the civil war, will likely need care well after the fighting is over. That's something doctors say a post-conflict Syria won't be able to provide.

Making things worse, there



"Undoubtedly, there is a call for changes. We are worried about another thing: What happens next."

— RUSSIAN PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN, ON THURSDAY DISTANCING HIMSELF FURTHER THAN EVER BEFORE FROM HIS LONGTIME ALLY, SYRIAN PRESIDENT BASHAR ASSAD. PUTIN SAID HE UNDERSTANDS SYRIA NEEDS CHANGE AND THAT HE IS NOT PROTECTING ASSAD IN THE COUNTRY'S WAR.

has been a sharp spike in serious injuries since the summer, when the regime began bombing rebel-held areas from the air, and doctors say a majority of the wounded they now treat are civilians.

This week, Fahed was recovering from brain surgery in an intensive care unit, watched over by Mariam, 22, his distraught mother.

150K

The rough estimate of the wounded in Syria's civil war, according to the U.K.-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. More than 43,000 have been killed in the country's 21-month-long conflict. (AP)

She said that after her first-born is discharged from the hospital in Atmeh, a village in an area of relative safety near the Turkish border, they will have to return to their village in a war zone in central Syria.

"We have nowhere else to go," she said.

Even for those who have escaped direct injury, the civil war is posing a mounting health threat. Half the country's 88 public hospitals and nearly 200 clinics have been damaged or destroyed, the World Health Organization says. Hundreds of thousands have been displaced by the fighting.

"You are talking about a public health crisis on a grand scale," said Dr. Abdalmajid Katranji, a surgeon from Lansing, Mich., who volunteers in Syria. KARIN LAUB (AP)

Rock Stars More Likely To Die Early, Study Says

London

Rock 'n' roll will never die — but it's a hazardous occupation.

An academic study published Thursday confirms that rock and pop musicians are more likely to die prematurely than the general population and finds that solo artists are twice as likely to die young as members of bands.

Researchers from Liverpool John Moores University and Britain's Health Department studied 1,489 rock, pop, punk, R&B, rap and New Age stars who gained fame between 1956 and 2006, from Elvis to the Arctic Monkeys.

The study suggests that the infamous rock 'n' roll lifestyle may not be entirely to blame.

Living Legends

Researchers dismissed the "fanciful but unsubstantiated" popular myth that rock stars tend to die at age 27 — as Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, Kurt Cobain and Amy Winehouse all did. The average age of death was 45.2 years for North American stars and 39.6 for European ones, a study released Thursday found. (AP)

Researchers also looked for the first time at how "adverse childhood experiences," such as physical or sexual abuse, affected stars later. They found that performers who had at least one such experience were more likely to die from drug and alcohol use or related causes. (AP)

Oil Pipeline Alight in Nigeria



A FIREFIGHTER PREPARES A HOSE Thursday in the latest effort to extinguish a flaming oil pipeline in Ijedodo, Nigeria. It caught fire Monday after would-be thieves botched an attempt to siphon oil.

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Cover Story

Better Luck Next Time?

The Maya never really said this was the end. But that didn't dissuade believers.

Merida, Mexico

The crystal skulls have spoken: The world is not going to end.

American seer Star Johnsen-Moser led a whooping, dancing, drum-beating ceremony Thursday in the heart of Mayan territory to consult several life-size crystal skulls, which adherents claim were passed down by the ancient Maya.

The skulls weren't the only inheritances left by the ancient civilization that have been making waves this week: The supposed end of the Mayan long-count calendar on Friday prompted a wave of doomsday speculation across the globe.

"This is not the end of the world, this is the beginning of the new world," Johnsen-Moser said at a gathering in Merida of hundreds of spiritualists. "It is most important that we hold a positive, beautiful reality for ourselves and our planet ... Fear is out of place."

The supposed 5 a.m. Friday doomsday hour had already arrived in several parts of the world with no sign of the apocalypse.

The social network Imgur posted photos of clocks turning midnight in the Asia-Pacific region with messages such as: "The world has not ended. Sincerely, New Zealand."

In Merida, the celebration of the

Around the U.S.

Michigan: Some schools have canceled classes Friday, citing threats and unrest partly because of "rumors about the Mayan calendar predictions," according to media reports.

Nevada: Las Vegas chapels have been marketing "Armageddon Wedding" packages for Dec. 21. The quickie wedding in that case could make for some short marriages. (EXPRESS/AP)

Just in Case



Glad Worship

People raise their hands at a Mayan ceremony in Bacuranao, Cuba, on Dec. 6. In Britain, hundreds of people have converged on Stonehenge to mark Dec. 21, which coincides with the winter solstice. (AP)

Ready To Float

At least two men in China expected a world-ending flood would occur Friday, timed with the conclusion of the Maya's 5,125-year-long calendar. One spent his life savings to build this diesel-powered arklike vessel. (AP)



AP/CHEN JIANGSHENG/GAP



Safe Spots To Hide

Julio Alvarez built end-of-the-world refuges in Alto Paraiso, Brazil, over a huge quartz plate. In Russia, a Moscow museum offered salvation from the world's end in Josef Stalin's underground bunker for \$1,500. (AP)

cosmic dawn began with a fumbling of the sacred fire meant to honor the calendar's conclusion.

Gabriel Lemus, the white-haired guardian of the flame, burned his finger on the kindling and later had to scoop up a burning log that was knocked onto the wooden stage.

Still, the white-clad Lemus was convinced that it was a good start, as he was joined by about 1,000 other shamans, seers, star-gazers, crystal enthusiasts, yogis, sufis and swamis at a convention center.

"It is a cosmic dawn," Lemus said. "We will recover the ability to communicate telepathically and levitate objects ... like our ancestors did."

Few here believed the world would end Friday; the summit is scheduled to run through Sunday.

Organizers of Yucatan's broader Mayan Culture Festival saw the need to answer the now-debunked idea that the Maya, who invented an amazingly accurate calendar almost 2,000 years ago, had somehow predicted the end of the world. The Maya measured time in 394-year periods known as baktuns. Anthropologists believe the 13th baktun ends around Dec. 21, and 13 is considered a sacred number for the Maya.

But archaeologists have uncovered Mayan glyphs that refer to dates far, far in the future, long beyond Dec. 21.

All of it amused Deyanira de Alvarez, a tourist who snapped a photo of the countdown clock in the Merida international airport showing a little more than two days left to "the galactic alignment."

"My grandmother says that people have been talking about [the world ending] ever since she was a little girl," De Alvarez said, "and look, grandma is still here."

MARK STEVENSON (AP)

HOLIDAY WINE & SPIRIT SALE

Bourbon & Blends

Ancient Age	1.75L	\$14.99
Early Times	1.75L	\$15.49
Jim Beam Black	1.75L	\$30.99
VA Gentleman	1.75L	\$18.99
Blantons	750ml	\$37.99
Buffalo Trace	750ml	\$17.99
Red Stag Bourbon	750ml	\$12.99

Scotch

Dewar's 12yr Sp Res	1.75L	\$56.99
J Walker Black	1.75L	\$58.99
Famous Grouse	1.75L	\$28.99
Glenfiddich Sp Res 12yr	750ml	\$34.99
Macallan 12yr	750ml	\$44.99

Canadian

Black Velvet	1.75L	\$10.99
Canadian Club	1.75L	\$14.49
Canadian Mist	1.75L	\$12.99
Crown Royal	1.75L	\$39.99
Windsor Canadian	1.75L	\$9.99

Gin & Vodka

Bombay Sapphire Gin	1.75L	\$32.99
Burnett's Gin	1.75L	\$13.49
Pinnacle Gin	1.75L	\$14.99
Seagram's Ex Dry Gin	1.75L	\$18.49
Finlandia	1.75L	\$22.99
Ketel One	1.75L	\$36.99
Sky	1.75L	\$21.99
Svedka (Asst Flavors)	1.75L	\$18.89
Three Olives Vodka	1.75L	\$21.99

Rum & Tequila

Admiral Nelson	1.75L	\$13.99
Appleton Sp Gold	1.75L	\$21.99
Appleton VX	1.75L	\$27.49
Captain Morgan Parrot Bay	1.75L	\$19.99
Captain Morgan Spiced	1.75L	\$20.99
Gosling Black Seal	1.75L	\$24.99
Malibu	1.75L	\$19.49
Mount Gay Eclipse	1.75L	\$28.99
Sailor Jerry	1.75L	\$23.99
Sauza Bl or Gold	1.75L	\$20.99
Jose Cuervo Black	Liter	\$21.99
Cabo Wabo Anejo	750ml	\$35.49
Cazadores Reposado	750ml	\$23.99
Reserva 1800 Rep, Sil or Coconut	750ml	\$19.99
Sauza Tres Gen Plata	750ml	\$25.99

Brandy, Cognac and Cordials

Christian Bros Brandy	1.75L	\$16.99
E&J Brandy VSOP	1.75L	\$19.99
Paul Masson	1.75L	\$16.49
Hennessy Black	750ml	\$31.99
Remy Martin VSOP	750ml	\$40.99
Remy Martin XO	750ml	\$127.99
Grand Marnier	1.75L	\$59.99
Cointreau	750ml	\$29.99
Di Saronno Amaretto	750ml	\$19.99
Kahlua	750ml	\$17.99

Champagne/ Sparkling

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Andre (All Varietals)	750ml	\$5.49
Barefoot Sparkling (All Varietals)	750ml	\$8.99
Ballatore Spumante or Rosso	750ml	\$7.99
Chandon (All Varietals)	750ml	\$15.99
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Korbel Natural	750ml	\$13.49
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Tott's Brut or Dry	750ml	\$6.99
Zardetto Prosecco	750ml	\$11.49

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Bailey's
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Absolut
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J Walker Red
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\$31.99

Beefeater Gin
1.75L
\$26.99

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18323 Leaman Farm Road
(Kingsview) 240-773-2014
20946 Frederick Road
(Milestone) 240-773-2016

KENSINGTON
3733 University Blvd.
(near China Gourmet) 240-773-2013

MONTGOMERY VILLAGE
19233 Watkins Mill Road
(near Giant) 240-773-2017

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(Cabin John Mall) 240-773-2005
10132 River Road 240-773-2020

ROCKVILLE
832-836 Rockville Pike 240-773-2055
14937 Shady Grove Road
(Falls Grove) 240-773-2018

OLNEY
12015 Rockville Pike
(Montrose Center) 240-773-2003

SILVER SPRING/WHEATON
723 Cloverly Avenue
(Cloverly) 240-773-2010
8701 Flower Avenue 240-773-2056
8715 Colesville Road
(downtown Silver Spring) 240-773-2021

WHEATON
11407 Georgia Avenue
(Wheaton) 240-773-2025
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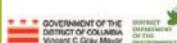
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BEN CLAASSEN III

Pepper Assault

You probably think you've experienced an epically bad commute. You won't feel that way after reading Andy Goodwin's story.

Two Mondays ago — of course it was a Monday — Goodwin glanced up from the Express crossword puzzle and saw two cops board his Red Line car at Forest Glen to confront a disoriented-looking man. Just as Goodwin decided to get out of the way by dashing to the doors, he says, the officers released pepper spray.

It missed their target, but the 56-year-old Aspen Hill resident got quite a mouthful, and as he stumbled into the next rail car, the symptoms kicked in.

"My whole throat reflexively clenched, and there was a stabbing pain in my eyes," Goodwin says. His fellow passengers instructed him to use his newspaper as a tissue to mop up "my ongoing cascade of tears and mucous." (Side note: Yet another reason to pick up Express!)

When it became clear he wasn't recovering, someone called the

operator and helped him get off at the next stop, where the station manager gave him water to wash out his eyes.

About 90 minutes after the incident, Goodwin could see, speak and breathe normally again, and he continued on the train to his Rosslyn office. The only lasting effects were puffy eyes and some pain caused by clenching his upper body for so long.

But his questions from that morning linger, including the biggie: What had that man done that would justify the use of pepper spray in an enclosed space?

According to Metro Transit Police deputy chief Ronald Pavlik, the individual in question had been trying to enter an emergency stairwell at the station. The officers tried to get him to stop, but he wouldn't listen and started to get physical.

"He wanted to go hands-on,"

says Pavlik, who explains that there's no set policy for when to use pepper spray. "It's based on the circumstances and the size of the suspect and the size of the officer."

Although Pavlik says an indirect misting takes only a few minutes to wear off ("It's no different than eating spicy foods," he says), the police do consider who else nearby might catch a whiff. Even the officers themselves can be affected, Pavlik adds.

That's why Metro Transit Police use pepper spray only once every three to five months, he estimates, and almost always on platforms or mezzanines rather than in trains or buses.

So it's possible Goodwin just had awful luck. It's also possible the officers were a little trigger-happy with their pepper spray. From what Goodwin saw, the individual in question didn't look like much of a threat. And, according to Metro, he was evaluated and sent to a hospital, not jail.

I get that pepper spray is a critical tool for officers trying to maintain order while avoiding physical confrontations, and I'd much rather hear about errant aerosols than stray bullets. But it'd be nice to know there were real guidelines, so we could brace ourselves for a blast of pepper spray during the morning commute.

Until then, Goodwin's sticking with his new Red Line routine.

"You know some of the cars have little Plexiglas partitions? I'm probably better off there than where I was," Goodwin says. "Those are my seats from now on."

Time Travelers

In 2013, are you planning to try that bus route by your house, dust off your old bike or finally learn how to parallel park? We want to hear your transportation-related New Year's resolutions for an upcoming column. Send your plans to Dcrider@wpost.com.

In Brief



President Barack Obama's presidential limo does not currently use the tag.

WASHINGTON

D.C. Vote Wants Obama to Use 'Taxation' Car Tags

The advocacy group D.C. Vote has started a petition on the White House website calling for the presidential limousine to carry the District of Columbia's "Taxation Without Representation" license plates. The group said Thursday that if 25,000 people sign the petition on the White House website within 30 days, the Obama administration will provide a response. (AP)

WASHINGTON

Man Charged in Wife's Death Ruled OK for Trial

A judge has ruled that a German man is competent to stand trial in the beating death of his much-older wife inside their Washington home. The decision by D.C. Superior Court Judge Russell Canan sets up a high-profile trial next year for 48-year-old Albrecht Muth. Muth is charged with first-degree murder in the August 2011 death of his wife, Viola Drath, a 91-year-old German journalist and socialite. (AP)

WASHINGTON

Hit-and-Run Crash Kills 1

D.C. police say a Northeast Washington man died after a hit-and-run accident late Tuesday night. The vehicle involved was seen speeding on 20th Street NE in the Langdon neighborhood, police said. The Dodge Charger sedan stopped abruptly and a female passenger got out; police said the car sped off and struck a pedestrian, later identified as 47-year-old John Schmidt. After the accident, the car backed up, the passenger got back inside, and the car sped away. (AP)

D.C. Adds 30K People in 2+ Years

Census data shows that since 2010, city population boomed

Washington

The District's boom keeps booming: Residents are flocking to the city at a blistering pace, according to new Census Bureau estimates.

In the 27 months since the 2010 Census was conducted, the bureau says, the D.C. population rose from 601,723 to 632,323. That's a rise of 30,600, exceeding the 1,000-resident-a-month pace that's been cited many times in the past year by Mayor Vincent Gray

and his planning director Harriet Tregoning.

The District, ranked beside the 50 states, boasts the second-highest population growth rate (2.15 percent) from July 2011 to July 2012. Only oil-and-gas-booming North Dakota did better (2.17 percent). Note that the new figure is a dropoff from D.C.'s 2010-to-2012 growth, which was estimated at 2.7 percent.

Here's your standard disclaimer on D.C.-to-states comparisons: It's generally unwise to draw broad conclusions from them. Many cities are seeing population growth just as D.C. is seeing, but the figures released Thursday do not include



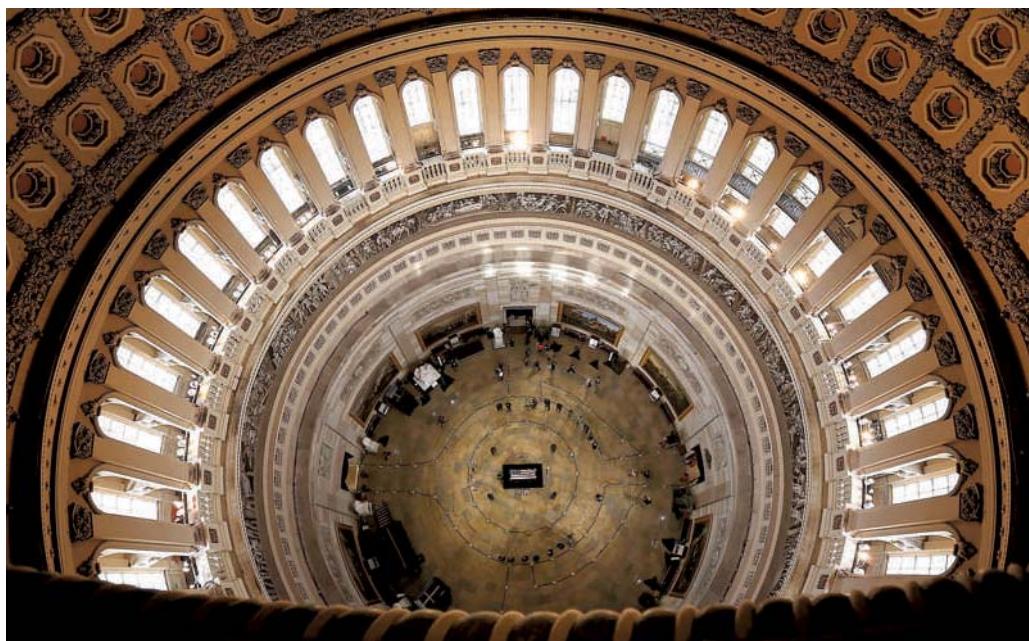
D.C.'s population rose from 601,723 to 632,323 over the course of 27 months.

rates than Washington did, including Austin, Texas; Denver; Raleigh, N.C.; Tampa, Fla.; and Atlanta.

But this much is beyond dispute: The Census Bureau now estimates the District's population now outranks a second state, Vermont, in addition to Wyoming. The Green Mountain State had 24,000 residents more than D.C. in 2010, but, according to estimates, it has added fewer than 300 residents since.

As the blog Greater Greater Washington notes, this means there are now at least six voting members of Congress who represent places with smaller populations than D.C. MIKE DEBONIS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

American Hero Honored on Capitol Hill



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

U.S. SEN. DANIEL INOUYE LIES IN STATE in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol during a service Thursday. The Democratic senator from Hawaii died at the age of 88 on Monday. A public funeral service will be held at the Washington National Cathedral on Friday for Inouye, a World War II veteran and the second-longest serving senator in history.

The Lotteries**Thursday, Dec. 20****Maryland**

Mid-day Pick 3	6-7-3
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	7-3-7
Mid-day Pick 4	5-7-2-8
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	1-5-4-6
Match 5 (Wed.)	3-13-17-20-36 (28)
Multi-Match (Wed.)	2-5-7-8-19-21

District

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	7-3-6
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	4-2-8
Mid-day DC 4	0-5-6-6
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	4-6-5-1
Mid-day D.C. Five	7-1-6-0-9
Evening D.C. Five (Wed.)	5-1-3-2-5
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	9-10-14-32-38 (12)

Virginia

Mid-day Pick 3	0-8-9
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	2-6-5
Mid-day Pick 4	8-2-1-3
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	7-0-5-9
Mid-day Cash 5	1-2-18-20-27
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	9-11-13-17-28
Win For Life (Wed.)	3-20-30-35-36-37 (16)

Multi-State Games

Power Play	5-8-20-23-30
Powerball	3

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express' deadline will be published two days later.

sports

Georgetown will host crosstown foe American Saturday at Verizon | **12**



TV Lineup



The Wizards play the Pistons in a home-and-home series Friday and Saturday.

► Friday

7:30 P.M. The Wizards (3-20) are in Detroit for the first game of a back-to-back against the Pistons (7-21), who are on a six-game skid. CSN

7:30 P.M. The Knicks (19-6) are atop the Eastern Conference standings and face the Bulls (14-10), who had the best record in the East the previous two seasons. NBATV

7:30 P.M. It's hard to believe this will be the fifth installment of the Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl. This year's game features Ball St. and Central Florida. ESPN

► Saturday

NOON For a second straight year, Louisiana-Lafayette is in a bowl game in New Orleans. The Ragin' Cajuns face East Carolina. ESPN

3:30 P.M. No BCS bowl for Boise State this year. The Broncos play Washington in the Maaco Bowl in Las Vegas.

4 P.M. No. 7 Ohio State hosts No. 9 Kansas in one of the best nonconference hoops matchups of the year. CBS

7 P.M. A second straight day of Wizards vs. Pistons — two of the worst teams in the Eastern Conference. This one is at Verizon Center. CSN

► Sunday

4:25 P.M. The Giants go to Baltimore in a battle of struggling teams. Fox

8:20 P.M. Who's the best of the West? We'll know Sunday in Seattle when the 49ers take on the Seahawks. NBC

All Signs Point to Go

RGIII will be starter Sunday vs. Eagles, barring any setback

Redskins

Washington Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III will be healthy enough to play Sunday if he has no setbacks before the team's Week 16 matchup with the Philadelphia Eagles, coach Mike Shanahan said Thursday.

"I like what I see," Shanahan said. "If there's no setback, doctors feel that he'll be ready to go."

Griffin, who missed last Sunday's game with a sprained lateral collateral ligament in his right knee sustained in Week 14 against the Baltimore Ravens, went through his second straight day of full practice Thursday.

Doctors watched Griffin closely to see how his knee responded to Wednesday's practice, looking for swelling or increased pain after his most extensive action since he suffered the injury. But he didn't experience either and had a good practice Thursday, according to Shanahan.

"There was no setback today, so that's a good sign."

Griffin said he doesn't feel any weakness or limitation in his knee, and he appeared to move with ease. But Shanahan said, "Obviously, he's not 100 percent yet. I think everybody knows that. But like I said, if there's no setbacks, he'll be ready to go."

Griffin wanted to play last week at



Rookie quarterback Robert Griffin III is second in the NFL in passer rating (104.2) and has thrown just four interceptions.



1 P.M.
Sunday | Fox



Three Things to Watch

1. Reid's Farewell

Andy Reid could be heading into his final home game as the Eagles' coach. Philadelphia is 4-10 and will miss the playoffs a second straight year. At 14 seasons, Reid is the longest-tenured NFL coach.

2. Who's Back?

For the Redskins, it's a second week in a row where it's uncertain whether RGIII will play. For the Eagles, LeSean McCoy and Michael Vick are back from concussions, but Nick Foles will still get the nod at quarterback.

3. Running Edge

The Redskins' top-ranked rushing attack (164.8 yards per game) faces the Eagles' 20th-ranked rush defense (122.0 ypg). No matter who is quarterback, Alfred Morris should see a lot of action. (EXPRESS)



Bouncing Back: A year ago, Trent Williams was suspended for four games by the NFL for testing positive multiple times for marijuana. But Williams owned up to his mistake and is playing like a Pro Bowl left tackle. "I bust my butt all offseason with that on my mind, and it fueled my fire a lot of days," he said. "And to be able to come out and perform with the best in the league ... it'd just mean that all my hard work, it just wasn't [whistling] in the wind." (AP)

MIKE JONES (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Making a Run at Redskins' Record

Rookie running back just 195 yards away from setting mark

Redskins

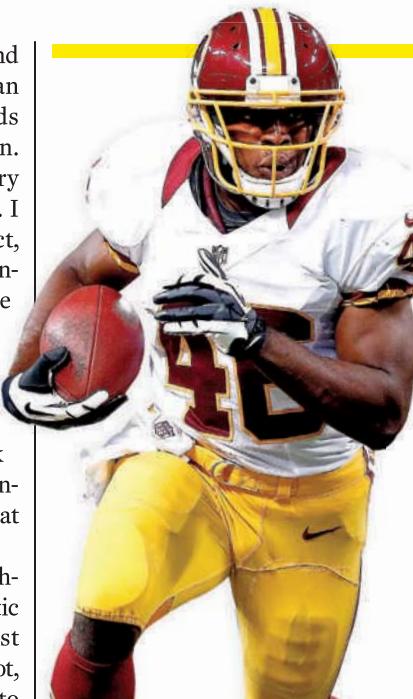
Robert Griffin III isn't the only rookie in the Redskins' backfield making his mark on the 2012 season.

Alfred Morris is just 195 yards away from breaking the Redskins' single-season rushing record of 1,516 yards set by Clinton Portis in 2005. With two games left, Morris' 1,322 yards already ranks seventh in team history. The only names in front of him are Portis, Stephen Davis, Terry Allen and John Riggins.

"I'm actually rooting for him,"

Portis told Holden Kushner and Danny Rouhier on 106.7 The Fan this week. "In my eyes, records are kind of meant to be broken. And just to even have the luxury of having it [was meaningful]. I think Alfred Morris is a class act, a young guy who came in and handled things properly and did it the right way. You never really hear him boast and brag about his accomplishments. And I think a lot of it is overshadowed by the great play of RGIII, but I think what they're doing as complimentary players to one another is great for the city."

Considering Morris was a sixth-round pick out of Florida Atlantic and entered training camp just trying to compete for a roster spot, it would be an understatement to



Chasing History

Running back Alfred Morris needs 195 yards to break the Redskins' record for most rushing yards in a season. Here are the 10 best rushing seasons in team history:

PLAYER	YEAR	GAMES	YDS
1. Clinton Portis	2005	16	1,516
2. Clinton Portis	2008	16	1,487
3. Stephen Davis	2001	16	1,432
4. Stephen Davis	1999	14	1,405
5. Terry Allen	1996	16	1,353
6. John Riggins	1983	15	1,347
7. Alfred Morris	2012	14	1,322
8. Stephen Davis	2000	15	1,318
9. Clinton Portis	2004	15	1,315
10. Terry Allen	1995	16	1,309

say the rookie running back has exceeded expectations.

But is Morris here for the long haul or is he just another product of a Mike Shanahan system?

While coaching the Denver Broncos, Shanahan helped turn Olandis Gary, Mike Anderson, Reuben Droughns and Tatum Bell into 1,000-yard rushers. And Terrell Davis, another sixth-round pick, became a 2,000-yard rusher and league MVP in Shanahan's system.

Only time will tell if Morris is just another product of Shanahan's system or if he's going to be the Redskins' next great running back. But if he averages 97.5 yards a game the last two weeks of the season, no one can doubt his standing in the Redskins' record books.

JEFFREY TOMIK (EXPRESS)

Sunday Pick'Em

Matt Swenson
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR,
EXPRESS

Clinton Yates
LUNCH LINE,
EXPRESS

Arnie Applebaum
GENERAL MANAGER,
EXPRESS

Chris Williams
BAR MANAGER,
PUBLIC BAR



REDSKINS
I'm pretty confident that they will run the table.



BENGALS
Each week, I keep thinking the Steelers will turn it around. I guess it won't happen.



TEXANS
Peterson will get to 2,000 yards this week, but Texans' defense will score winning TD.



RAVENS
Ray Lewis will return, and so will the Ravens' winning ways.



SEAHAWKS
Instead of scoring 50 points this week, they'll settle for 49!

REDSKINS
I really, really hope that Cousins starts this game behind a banged-up O-line.

STEELERS
The Bengals have lost nine straight to anyone in their division not named the Browns.

TEXANS
The Texans might let AP break the record just so they can say they saw one.

RAVENS
I have no idea why the Giants are favored in this game. Both teams are struggling.

REDSKINS
RGIII will likely be torturing the Eagles for years to come.

STEELERS
The Bengals are playing better football right now, but this will be a great game.

TEXANS
The Texans face a huge task in stopping Adrian Peterson.

GIANTS
The Ravens are apparently morphing into the Jets.

REDSKINS
Christmas comes early: Philly's trophy case is still empty.

BENGALS
Big Ben stands next to Todd Haley wearing an "I'm with stupid" T-shirt.

TEXANS
If Christian Ponder was as talented as his wife, the Vikes might have a chance.

GIANTS
The "We're Elite QBs, I Swear!" Bowl is narrowly won by the G-Men.

SEAHAWKS
Remember years ago when Stanford ran up the score on USC? Pete Carroll does.

LATEST CANCELLATIONS PUT SEASON IN DANGER

NHL

The NHL could be one step away from canceling another hockey season because of a labor fight with the players.

In the latest round of cancellations, the NHL on Thursday wiped out all games through Jan. 14. More than 50 percent of the schedule has been lost, and the rest is now in great danger, too.

"I don't want to characterize what today's cancellations mean or don't mean," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly told the Associated Press in an email. "I will stand on the announcement that was made."

So far, 625 regular-season games have been called off, including nearly 100 in the announcement made Thursday — the 96th day of the NHL's lockout. The New Year's Day Winter Classic and the All-Star Game also have been lost.



Commissioner Gary Bettman and the NHL have now canceled 625 games.

The NHL had previously canceled games through Dec. 30.

Daly said in a radio interview Wednesday that mid-January is likely the latest the sides could go to make a deal to save the season. When pressed, however, he said he expects the season will be played.

No drop-dead date has been announced by the NHL, which is the only North American professional sports league to cancel a season because of a labor dispute. The 2004-05 season was lost to a lockout. IRA PODELL (AP)

sports

Hoyas Trying Not to Look Ahead

Thompson focusing on American game, not Big East changes

College Basketball

Last week, the buzz surrounding the Georgetown basketball program focused more on the Hoyas' planned departure from the Big East than on its upcoming matchup.

On some level, that remains the same even with crosstown foe American next on the Hoyas' docket. But coach John Thompson III is doing all he can to keep his 15th-ranked Hoyas focused on the present, including Saturday's noon tipoff at Verizon Center vs. the Eagles.

"Last week, a lot of things happened, obviously," Thompson said Thursday, alluding to the seven teams that announced plans to leave the Big East and start their own league. "In terms of as it relates to this team it was business as usual."

Winning has been business as usual for the Hoyas (9-1), who wrap up their nonconference schedule against American (4-7) before opening Big East play Jan. 5 at Marquette.



Coach John Thompson III and Georgetown are on a six-game winning streak.

Since losing to Indiana Nov. 20, Georgetown has won six straight.

Not that it's always been pretty. There was the self-described "ugly" 46-40 win over Towson, but Georgetown averaged 85 points in subsequent victories over Longwood and Western Carolina. Credit the recent scoring surge to the Hoyas taking advantage of 45 turnovers in that stretch more than their own half-court offense finding a consistency.

"I think we need to stay hungry on every end," junior forward Nate Lubick said. "We need to sharpen up what we do on offense."

That's certainly what Greg Whittington did against Western Caroli-

"It's like a little rivalry we have in the D.C. area, but we come out and play hard no matter who it is."

— GEORGETOWN'S GREG WHITTINGTON,
ABOUT PLAYING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

na. The sophomore forward broke out of a shooting slump by making eight of 12 shots, including three 3-pointers, for a career-high 25 points. Whittington also grabbed 11 rebounds while fellow sophomore Jabril Trawick set a career-best with



Noon
Saturday



14 points against the Catamounts.

Whatever Georgetown's offensive issues may be, they are largely of the fine-tuning variety. American's attack needs an overhaul. The Eagles average 55.7 points, ranking 338th nationally, and have lost six of eight games, including Tuesday's setback at lowly Hampton (2-7).

Georgetown owns a 44-8 all-time series record with eight straight wins, including last season's 81-55 victory behind Markel Starks' 18 points. But the Hoyas are not looking past the Eagles, despite the potential short- and long-term distractions.

"They are right down the street," Whittington said. "It's like a little rivalry we have in the D.C. area, but we come out and play hard no matter who it is."

After Saturday's matchup comes a longer than usual break between games. As for exactly how many days the players will be off, that's to be determined. "It depends on how Saturday goes," Thompson said. BENJAMIN STANDIG (FOR EXPRESS)

In Brief



Swimmer Michael Phelps was named the AP's male athlete of the year.

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR Phelps Adds AP Honor To His Illustrious Career

Not that Michael Phelps' career needed a capper, but he added one more honor to his staggering list of accomplishments Thursday—the Associated Press male athlete of the year. Phelps edged out LeBron James to win the award for the second time, not only a fitting payoff for another brilliant Olympics (four gold medals and two silvers in swimming at the London Games) but recognition for one of the greatest careers in any sport. Phelps finished with 40 votes in balloting by U.S. editors and broadcasters, while James was next with 37. Track star Usain Bolt, who won three gold medals in London, was third with 23. (AP)

NFL

Source: Jets to Consider Options With Sanchez

Mark Sanchez is the former face of the franchise. He could soon be a former member of the New York Jets. The team will consider all their options regarding the beleaguered and benched quarterback in the offseason, a person with knowledge of the situation told the Associated Press on Thursday. That means his status is in limbo and a trade cannot be ruled out. (AP)

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Top Prospect Picks Duke

Prized prospect Jabari Parker of Chicago's Simeon Career Academy, one of the most highly touted recruits in years, is headed to Duke. With a national TV audience watching, he announced his decision at a news conference Thursday at his high school. (AP)

Terps Get Little Time to Relax Over Break

Despite 9-1 record, Turgeon pushing to see improvements

College Basketball

The Maryland campus is all but empty now. Final exams ended this week, but there is no winter break for the basketball team.

The closest thing to a vacation the players got was the eight-day stretch without a game on the schedule, a stretch that ends Friday. Coach Mark Turgeon left the players little time to relax, insisting the team had no reason to be overconfident despite its 9-1 record.



"They have to give me more," he said after a 33-point win over Monmouth last week. "The problem is everybody is telling them how good they are because of our record. They are listening to everybody else except for me. But we have a lot of time. We're going to be fine."

An unimposing nonconference schedule makes assessing the Terps' progress difficult. They have played only one ranked team—a 72-69 season-opening loss to then-No. 3 Kentucky.

Maryland's most impressive victories have been a 20-point rout of Northwestern in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge and a seven-point win over George Mason. The rest came against a collection of second- and third-tier schools from up and down the East Coast. Three more such games remain, including against Stony Brook on Friday, before conference play opens Jan. 5.

"Games like [Monmouth] make us better as a team, but we are definitely looking forward to starting our ACC play," sophomore Nick Faust said. "We are looking forward to playing bigger-name schools to really test our strengths as a team."

The bulk of the student body

won't return to College Park until spring classes commence in late January, leaving more than a month with few distractions. The team is young. Four freshmen receive significant playing time, as do three sophomores. The youthful mistakes, like the torrents of turnovers that frustrate Turgeon, soon will not be so easily overcome.

"We're getting into the second half of the season. Freshmen aren't considered freshmen anymore. They're going to have to grow up," sophomore Dez Wells said. "But that's on the veterans. We have to demand more from them, and we have to stay on them." DEREK TURNER (FOR EXPRESS)

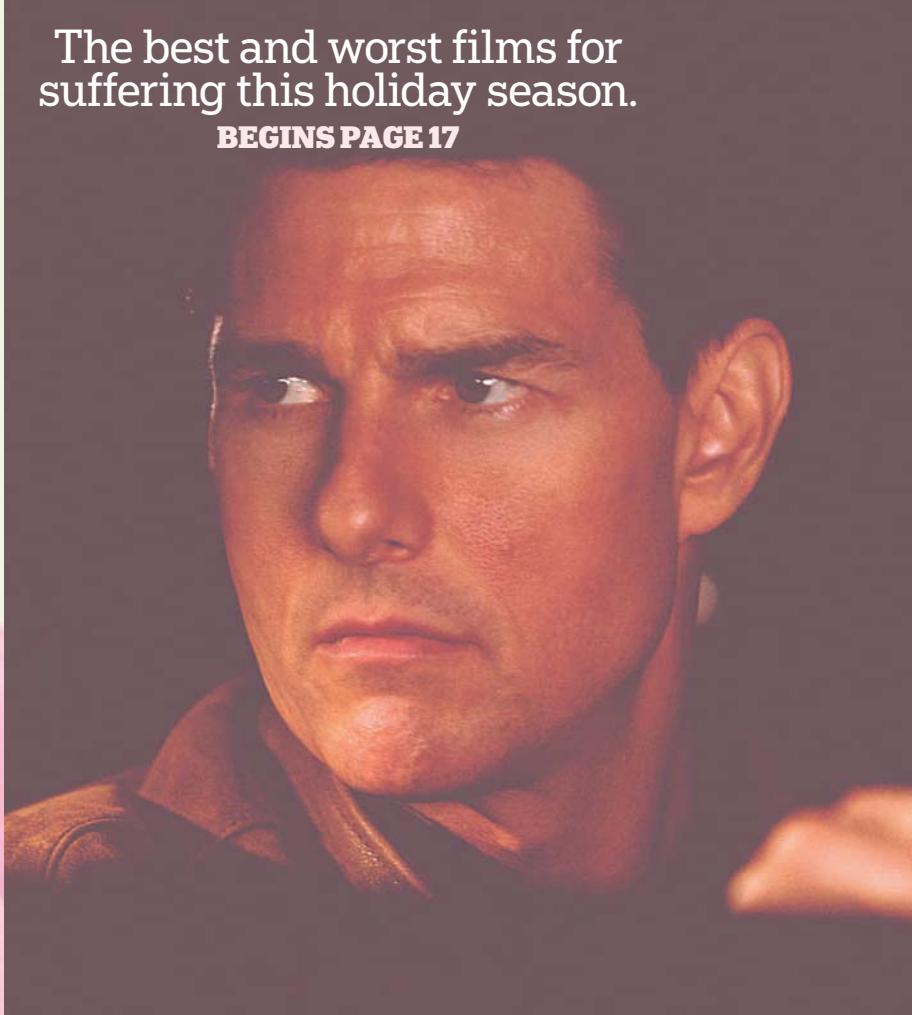
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weekend 12.21.12

The Miserables

The best and worst films for suffering this holiday season.

BEGINS PAGE 17



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LAURA MOSS

Danny Seo**ECO DECORATING EXPERT, AUTHOR**

This time of year, the piles of crumpled wrapping paper, stacks of uneaten cookies and glut of made-in-China plastic toys could turn anyone into a Scrooge. But eco design pro Danny Seo — known for his appearances on the "Today" show and a line of sustainable decor for Marshalls and Home Goods — thinks the holidays can be both festive and earth-friendly. His new book, "Upcycling Celebrations" (\$18, Running Press), shows and tells you how to craft dreidels from old jar lids, turn breath-mint tins into cool gift packaging and more.

Can you define upcycling for any newbies?

Well, the core word there is recycling. But the "up" part refers to a more positive spin on the word. If you recycle something, it's often

downcycled into something inferior. But upcycling is like saying, "I'm cutting down this dead tree, but then I'm using the base to make a new dining-room table."

Are there still any misconceptions about the eco movement?

People think that being green costs more money. In some cases, that's true, like if you're buying a Lexus hybrid or Stella McCartney vegan shoes. But in many cases, eco is very economical now.

Are people moving toward celebrating greener holidays?

I think it's not even about being green so much as that, as a society, we're embracing so many green practices throughout our lives — bringing bags to the stores, crafting getting cool again.

How can you decorate for the holidays without destroying the planet?

Don't think of holiday decor as an elaborate set. You don't have to create a cinematic moment when a little bit of decorating goes a long way. I have projects for making a recycled cardboard gingerbread house or, my favorite, taking an old, ornate silver tray and painting it with chalkboard paint. Use the tray as a chalkboard to post your Christmas menu.

The best thing you can do is get a real tree with a root ball, then plant it after the holidays."

Which is better for the earth — a live tree or a fake one?

Well, the best thing you can do is get a real tree with a root ball, then plant it after the holidays. But if you can't do that, call your local landscaping center and see if they'll rent you an outdoor pine tree for a few weeks.

How should I trim my tree?

Well, I love vintage holiday ornaments. My tree has a mix of natural things —leaves, berries — and flea-market glass ornaments. But using vintage lights doesn't make sense. Invest in LED lighting and it's much safer.

What about gifts? What's the key to giving things that are green?

I think it's about the quality of gifts. And then, I'm always a fan of gift cards. If someone has a choice between a box of questionable cookies and a gift card, well, I think you know what they'd really like.

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

Event Horizon | The Room Score

The Mansion on O Street, a quirky decorated party space in Dupont Circle that's usually members-only, hosts an open house/sale from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Expect deals on furniture, clothing and jewelry — plus the chance to chat up oddball volunteers dressed as Santa. 2020 O St. NW; 202-496-2020; Omansion.com.

goods lookout

1 Cocoa Motive

FORGET EVERYTHING you've learned about sharing if you're the recipient (or the would-be-gifter) of Droga Chocolates' sweets (at [Drogachocolates.com](#), Bloomingdales and Anthropologie stores). Boxes of chocolate-covered treats — such as "Put Your Money on Honey" chocolate and sea salt-topped caramels (\$17) — are rich and addictive. We don't blame you if you chomp the whole box in one sitting to confirm this for yourself.



Grab Bag



2 Away in a Menagerie

EVERY BAUBLE you dangle from a holiday tree branch doesn't need to be glitzy and garish. At Proper Topper (1350 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-842-3055), animal-shaped ornaments cut from recycled steel (\$18-\$22) would give any tannenbaum edgy, weathered charm. Friendly beasts range from an owl to a regionally apropos crab, shown.



3 Turkish Delightful

SHOULD PARIS DESIGNERS BE WORRYING about fashion competition from Istanbul? Oui, if they step into Bethesda's new Take 5 Boutique (4920 Fairmont Ave. NW; 301-500-0132), which sells top names from Turkey. The sleek shop traffics in East-meets-West designs, including Sertac Delibas' Hagia Sophia high heels (\$325), jeweler Evren Kayar's tactile rings and Özgür Masur's femme evening wear — think a feathered miniskirt (shown, \$470). It's all served up in a gallery-like space with honeyed wood floors, white walls and a pink pouf for shoe try-ons.

4 Deco Rations

DID A "BOARDWALK EMPIRE" or "Great Gatsby" antiheroine spill her jewelry box at GoodWood (1428 U St. NW; 202-986-3640)? You'll think so when you spot the retro-gone-rugged baubles by Jan Michaels. Bling that conjures flapper balls and gun molls include a brass "snelace" (shown, \$100), horn-shaped earrings (\$67) and a coral ring (\$30) worthy of a night at the speakeasy.

5 Petal Power

WHO DOESN'T

love getting roses? That is, until they wilt and turn to crunchy reminders of our mortality. Show adoration with a longer-lasting alternative: Diptyque's new Rose Duet candle (\$65, [Diptyqueparis.com](#)). Inspired by the flower of the same name with bicolor petals, the new luminary is made from two different floral scents for a well-balanced bouquet.



Dear Manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOE BLOGGER

It has been a very tough year for me here in suburbia, so I really want to celebrate the end of 2012. Can you please recommend some shoes for a New Year's Eve black-tie gala in the city, complete with dinner and dancing? —PATRICIA

Manolo says, as is always the case, the last few weeks of the year are filled to the bursting with events, which require substantial preparation and attention, such as the Christmas, the Eve of the New Year and the Mayan Calendar Apocalypse.

One minute you are trimming the Christmakwanzakkah tree and taking your little black dress to the seamstress for adjustments; the next you are stocking up on the Meals Ready to Eat and filling sandbags so as to for-



tify your basement against the fiery arrival of Quetzalcoatl and his Army of the Undead.

But then the life of the suburban housewife has never been easy, has it?

Happily, the gigantic party at the very end of the year makes up for the various indignities you have suffered over the course of that year, such as the bald spots in your lawn, the rust spots on your minivan and the way your 7-year-old's violin practice makes you want to call the meteorite down upon the head of the person who wrote the "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star."

Here is the Aksaya Sandal from the Shutz (\$185, [Nordstrom.com](#)), perfect for the celebratory boogying.



Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

lookout food



Molecular Gastronomy

Transform your bar cart into something out of a José Andrés fantasy with the Cocktail R-Evolution kit (\$58.95, Molecule-r.com) – it's a lot easier than scoring a reservation at the James Beard winner's molecular gastronomy restaurant.

Compounds and a DVD help you whip up cutting-edge, high-tech cocktails such as lime foam margaritas or layered martinis.

Take the class instead: Rogue 24's (Rogue24.com) resident gastronaut R.J. Cooper offers a class that teaches you how to use molecular gastronomy to make dishes and drinks (\$200 per person, call 202-408-9724 to arrange).

Distilling

Home-brewed IPAs are so 2011. House-made spirits are this year's must-have for the bar you built in your basement. Er, we mean your man cave. The Age Your Own Woodinville Whiskey Kit (\$150, Binny's.com) requires patience, but little else. Just fill the cask with the provided, white, un-aged spirits, wait for three to six months, then toast all your not-so-hard work with a brown whiskey.

Take the class instead: Catoctin Creek (Catoctincreekdistilling.com) offers a free Bottling Day Workshop (times and dates vary).

Treats to DIY for

It's one thing to drool over the house-made artisanal holiday offerings at trendy restaurants but another thing to make your own Bavarian-style Cheese Curds/Lentil Macaroons/Bacon Marmalade. (They don't call them the culinary arts for nothing.) Still, whether you're looking for a last-minute gift for a wannabe Giada or a treat to whip up for a New Year's bash, there are a taste-spanning variety of DIY starter kits. "There's a desire for healthier, homemade products and for more economical choices," says Joe Bellavance, founder of Average Joe Artisan Bread (Breadkit.com). And if you give or get any of these experiential goodies, you don't have to tip or make a reservation. NEVIN MARTELL (FOR EXPRESS)

Jamming

Get in touch with your inner grandmother with Ball's all-in-one FreshTECH Automatic Jam and Jelly Maker (\$100, Freshpreservingstore.com). Load up the Crock-Pot with fruits or vegetables, add seasonings, press a button, then go watch an episode of "Modern Family." You don't even have to hassle with canning your compotes, since they last for three weeks in the fridge.

Take the class instead:

Cathy Barrow (Mrswheelbarrow.com) offers a wide variety of canning classes (prices and dates vary).



Bread Baking

Mastering bread is the final frontier of baking. That's because this ancient art is a difficult process where lots can go wrong (yeast dies, you're so knead-y the stuff gets tough). The Average Joe Artisan Bread Kit (\$99, Breadkit.com) simplifies loaf-making until it's nearly dummy-proof via a no-knead bread recipe, measuring cups, recipe book and baking tools.

Take the class instead: L'Academie de Cuisine hosts a hands-on "Bake that Bread" workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Feb. 23. The workshop includes how-to's for pecan sticky buns, baguettes and more. \$85, 5021 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, 301-986-9490; Lacademie.com.



Cheesemaking

You don't need a herd of cows and a cave to make fromage. The 30 Minute Mozzarella & Ricotta Kit (\$25, Cheesemaking.com) from New England Cheesemaking Supply Co. includes everything you need to create some Italian favorites for your next homemade pizza.

Take the class instead: Edward Hammann teaches lactose lovers how to turn out their own chevre, butter and ricotta at Sur La Table Pentagon Row. \$79, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Jan. 18.

ready to rent



Geeta, Hush Supper Club's founder who goes by a single name, regularly hosts five-course dinner parties for as many as a dozen guests in her Shaw apartment.

Party Like It's 1,999 Square Ft.

Make holiday gatherings a wild success, no matter how small your space

Entertaining

Geeta is something of a dinner-party expert. The founder of Hush Supper Club regularly cooks up and serves five-course Indian meals (complete with drinks and storytelling) to a dozen guests — right from the comfort of her apartment in Shaw.

"My kitchen is woefully limited in terms of counter space," says Geeta, who goes by a single name. "So I've spent a lot of time really looking at the geometry of my space."

Before she begins cooking, she figures out which burners and prep spaces she'll need and when. She stores her many spices, dried goods and serving tools on stainless steel shelves (an Ikea find) so she can find what she needs with a quick glance. "That way, I don't forget what I have," she says.

She decorates her dining area with engaging trinkets and treasures (many purchased off of Craigslist, including a gold-rimmed, 3-foot lamp) that get her guests asking questions. "When people say 'I have a crappy old apartment or old space,' that's no excuse not to surround yourself with pretty things," she says.

Even without a lot of space you can host boisterous holiday celebrations. The trick is cutting down on clutter and making every available space — even spots that don't seem ready-made for eggnog and crudite — work for you.

Before your party, maximize your space.

CONTINUED ON R3

JASON HORNICK/FOR EXPRESS



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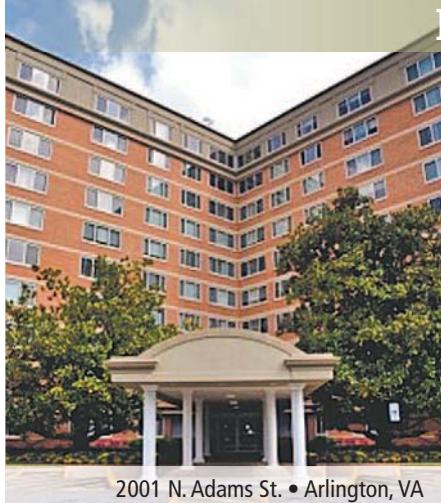
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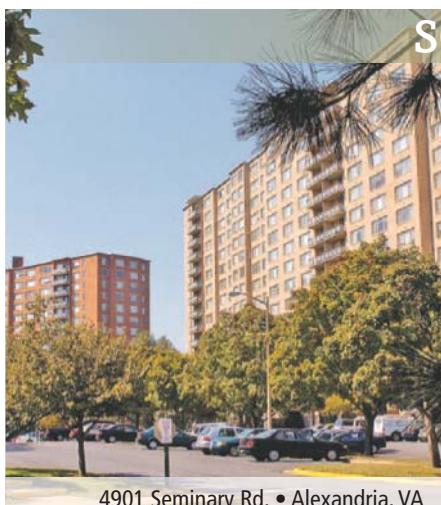
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Holiday Hosting

Continued from page R1

Party planner Rebecca Hoeckele, who heads up Celebration Sensations, advises moving your furniture out of the center of the room. Limit the number of chairs, she says: There should be one seat for every three guests in order to force (or at least encourage) mingling. Store tabletop knickknacks in your bathtub to maximize flat spaces.

"Clutter is always going to make a space feel smaller," Hoeckele says. "You need to make your space easy to navigate so guests can mingle and enjoy the food and drinks."

nextweek

Can you furnish your entire apartment for free? We'll talk to a renter who did just that, in next week's Ready to Rent.

Hoeckele recommends putting the food and drinks on different tables so you don't have a crush of hungry party-dwellers surrounding the sips and snacks. She even recommends staggering your party start time on invitations to avoid having too many revelers in a small place at once.

Think about how you can use what's already in your home in creative ways. Hoeckele once transformed a bookcase into a bar, moving books out of the way to make room for glasses, wine and an ice bucket.

"It's all about how you can



Organization is crucial to working in a small kitchen. Hush Supper Club hostess Geeta stores her dried goods, spices, pots and pans where she can easily see and grab them.

"Clutter is always going to make a space feel smaller. You need to make your space easy to navigate so guests can mingle and enjoy the food and drinks."

— REBECCA HOECKELE, PARTY PLANNER AND HEAD OF CELEBRATION SENSATIONS, WHO SUGGESTS MOVING YOUR FURNITURE AROUND BEFORE YOUR GUESTS ARRIVE

creatively use the stuff that you have," she says. "The smaller the space, the more you need to pay attention to detail."

There are ways to make even the tiniest of kitchens work for the ambitious chef who's promised a three-course holiday feast. First, be careful about what you bring into the kitchen. Things that take up space are bad; things that make

space are good.

Leah Daniels of kitchen goods store Hill's Kitchen on Capitol Hill recommends investing in storage that can free up counter space for cooking, such as a wine-glass holder or a dish mat that folds up once you're done drying dishes. And buy appliances that have more than one function.

"Look for things that do



multiple things," she says. "That's the way to make your kitchen work for you."

Even furniture can be transformed with a little ingenuity. "Cover your desk with a tablecloth," she says. "All of a sudden, you have a side table."

Christine Mitchell, 30, who likes to host "informal" brunch get-togethers, is an expert at making do in a small kitchen. This is some of what was on her last menu: Egg strata. Homemade bacon marmalade. Pumpkin crumb cake.

Mitchell is a self-described party enthusiast. "I love to feed my friends," she says. "Just getting people together is the goal."

Before she moved last month,

Mitchell lived in a tiny one-bedroom, where parties proved complicated.

"At first, I was very upset that I couldn't host dinner parties the way I wanted to," she says. But she adapted, crafting big buffet-style meals and letting friends serve themselves on pretty paper plates.

"People would sit on couches, on the balcony," she says. "It was very organic."

Even though Mitchell has more space in her new home in Petworth, she's still adapting things to fit her needs. "Sitting at a table or sitting on the floor do," she says. "As long as we laugh and enjoy the food or activity, that's what matters."

AMANDA ERICKSON (FOR EXPRESS)



When buying gifts for apartment-dwellers, take into account their limited space and nomadic lifestyle. These items pack a lot of style into small, affordable packages.

1. Scratch map: This map does double-duty: It's not only a stylish way to fill a blank wall, but it also helps your favorite traveler keep a proud tally of places seen. (Paper Source, \$28.95)

2. Potted Plants: You don't have to get the usual holiday poinsettia. Just make sure it's easy to care for, such as this row of succulents in a wooden box. (Olive & Cocoa, \$48)

3. Trays and dishes: Great for bringing organization

to small spaces. We're partial to these blue nesting trays. (Wisteria, \$49)

4. Throw: An ombre throw adds color to any apartment without taking up a lot of space. (West Elm, \$49)

5. Travel Charger: Meant for travel, this four-pronged charger can cut down on clutter at home, too. Perfect for renters who have more gadgets than outlets. (Restoration Hardware, \$49)

ready to rent DIRECTORY



DC	DC	1606 - 1616 K Street 1606 - 1616 K St., NE Washington, DC 20002	1&2 BRS ranging from \$892-\$1008 + electric/gas cooking. Spacious apartments, newly remodeled, hardwood floors.	Spacious apartments 301-589-6000 x409 grwason@msn.com	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3+ Bedroom	Laundry on Site	Metro Accessible	Parking Available	Pets Allowed	Fitness Ctr on Site	Secure Entry	UTILS Included	W & D in Unit
DC	DC					X								X		
DC	DC		Brookland Ridge 400 Taylor St., NE Washington DC 20017	<u>Move-in by Dec 31, 2012 & Pay NO RENT Until Feb 1, 2013!*</u> *(Call for details. Subject to end without notice. Restrictions may apply.) Washers/dryers, walk-in closets, all-black kitchen appliances, breakfast nook, carpeting, patio/balcony. Walking distance to Brookland Metro (Red line), CUA & Howard U, Wash. Med Ctr, and shops & restaurants.			X		X X	X X	X X			X		
DC	DC		The Cloisters 100 Michigan Avenue NE Washington, DC 20017	<u>Move-in by Dec 31, 2012 & Pay NO RENT Until Feb 1, 2013!*</u> * Call for details. End without notice. Restrictions. ~Pet friendly ~ Minutes to Brookland Metro, Capitol Hill, CUA, ~ Eat-in kitchens, off street parking, fitness center, Merobus, central air/heating, washer/dryer in home		2, 3 Brs Starting at \$1785 877-336-7855 thecloistersdc.com	X X		X X X X X X					X		
DC	DC		Mayfair Mansions Apartments 3744 1/2 Hayes St., NE Washington, DC 20019	NEWLY RENOVATED...Washer/Dryer In-Unit! ~ NO RENT Until January 2013 ~ Apply by 12/23 and move-in by 12/28 to receive a FREE Ipad Mini* or \$300 gift card ~ \$0 application fee ~ \$250 security Deposit *ipad mini Wi-Fi 16GB Black w/in 2 weeks of move-in		1,2,3 BRs Starting at \$936 202-396-9100	X X X X X X		X X					X X	X X	
DC	DC		Fort Chaplin Park 4212 East Capital St., NE Washington, DC 20010	• One Block from Metro • New Window Treatments • Landscaped Courtyards • 5% Discount to all Metro & DC Gov't. Employees • Renovated Kitchens • Individually controlled heat & A/C • Housing Choice Voucher Welcome where rents are within voucher limits		1,2,3 BRs Starting at \$810 866-209-9228	X X X X X X									
DC	DC		1334 Fort Stevens Drive 1334 Fort Stevens Dr., NW Washington, DC 20011	Very spacious, carpeted, large walk-in closet, secured entry.		Studios Starting at \$799 301-589-6000 X 112	X		X X					X X		
DC	DC		Latrobe Apartments 1325 15th Street NW Washington, DC 20005	<u>CALL FOR RENT SPECIALS!!!</u> At the Latrobe, we offer a new standard of luxury living, right at the nexus of Dupont Circle and Logan Circle. Our spacious, updated apartments are also smoke-free.		Studio, 1,2 BRs Starting at \$1675 202-719-5138 LatrobeApts.com	X X X		X X X X X X					X X		
DC	DC		Walden Commons 1336 Missouri Ave. NW Washington DC 20011	The right choice for your new home! The convenience & vitality of Washington DC, immediate access to Rock Creek Park & unique floorplans all help to create an enviable lifestyle. • Fully equipped kitchens • Hi-speed internet available • Balconies with great views (in select units) • Individual climate control		1 BRs starting at \$1249 888-694-0962 walden-commons.com	X		X X X					X		
DC	DC		The Woodner 3636 16th Street NW Washington, DC 20010	1 Month Free rent on Studios w/ 12 month lease 1/2 Month Free rent on 1Bdrms and Studios w/ 6 month lease -Spacious Studios starting at \$1210 -1 bdrs starting at \$1500 -2bdrs starting at \$1875 -Fitness Center and Underground Parking -On-Site Grocery, Dry Cleaner, and Restaurant -Within Walking Distance to Columbia Heights Metro		Studio, 1 BR Starting at \$1210 888-290-5068 woodner.com	X X		X X X		X			X	X	
DC	DC		WDC 1 Apartments 305 37th Street SE B3 Washington, DC 20019	Look, Love, Lease at WDC 1 Apartments. Come home to comfort and value. Why look at the rest when you can live in the best. We are located minutes away from downtown DC, shopping, and recreational facilities. All units have wall to wall carpet, spacious closets, updated kitchens and central AC.		1, 2BRs Starting at \$750 202-575-2990 Wdc1@winnco.com	X X			X						

ready to rent DIRECTORY



DC	DC	River Hill Apartments 2942 2nd St., SE Washington, DC 20032	River Hill Apartments was created for those who know what they want out of life! Our elegant homes of distinction provide carefree living with personalized service. You'll be surrounded by natural beauty and vitality. With our central location, you are just minutes from fine dining, shopping and recreation. With features such as a swimming pool and a playground, you'll be living the good life.	1, 2 BRs Starting at \$769 866-378-3385	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3+ Bedroom	Laundry on Site	Metro Accessible	Parking Available	Pets Allowed	Fitness Ctr on Site	Secure Entry	UTILS Included	W & D in Unit	
DC	DC	5210-5212 E Street 5210-5212 E St., SE Washington, DC 20019	Gorgeous 2BR apartments from \$1200 + electric and water, newly renovated, hardwood floors, balconies, granite countertops, marble tile.	2 BRs Starting at \$1200 Call Gene Wason 301-589-6000 x409	X	X	X							X			
DC	DC	Minnesota Avenue	1715 Minnesota Ave., SE Washington, DC 20020	Spacious 1BRS & 2BRS from \$806 - \$931 + utilities, plenty of storage space, gorgeous hardwood floors	1 BR Starting at \$806 Call Gene Watson 301-589-6000 x109	X		X		X		X					
DC	DC	215 C Street Apartments 215 C Street SE Washington, DC 20003	Live in the Heart of Capitol Hill 2 blocks from South Capitol Metro Renovated studio floor plans 215 C street Apartments Move in Now and receive 1 month free rent..and All move in fees are waived	Large Studios Starting at \$1600 202-362-4201 www.gables.com/215cstreet	X				X	X	X			X			
DC	DC	Friendship Court 4632 Livingston Rd.,SE Washington, DC 20032	Fresh, crisp and beautifully landscaped. Friendship Courts newly renovated community is remodeled with you in mind! Our apartment homes are completely upgraded ,ready for you to visit. *\$15 APPLICATION FEE*	1&2 BRs Starting at \$769 866-754-0431	X	X	X	X	X	X							
DC	DC	Banneker Place 3738 D St., SE Washington, DC 20019	Fall Move in Specials ■ \$40.00 Application fee ■ Free gas, hot water and heat ■ an array of modern amenities and many extras for your convenience. Choose from a variety of living spaces designed to meet your every need. You'll be close to transportation, shopping, more!	Studio, 1, 2 BRs Starting at \$815 202-584-1688	X	X	X	X	X	X							
DC	DC	Friendship Crossing Apartments 57 Galveston Street SW Washington, DC 20032	ASK ABOUT OUR RENT SPECIAL! FREE HEAT, GAS WATER Have it all at Friendship Crossing ... convenience comfort and value! A gadt community just minutes to shopping, dining, 495, 295 & metro.Fully renovated apartment homes in a park like atmosphere.New and upgraded appliances, laundry facilities in each bldg.	1 & 2 BRs Starting at \$775 202-563-6800	X	X	X	X	X	X				X			
DC	DC	Greenwood Manor Apartments 2343 Green Street SE Washington DC 20020	Discover the thrill, excitement and glee of living in Greenwood Manor. Call Today!!!	1,2,3BRs Starting at \$775 202-678-2548 www.delwin-realty.com	X	X	X										
DC	DC	3322 12th St., SE Washington, DC 20032	Spacious 1BRS & 2BRS from \$745 - \$895 + electric, plenty of light, on-site laundry, close to new shops & Congress Heights metro.	1 BR Starting at \$745 Call Gene Wason 301-589-6000 x409	X			X	X							X	
DC	DC	Park Naylor Apartments 2562 Naylor Road, SE Washington, DC 20020	***LEASING SPECIAL*** \$15 App. fee, \$99 Deposit (upon approved credit) FREE Heat, Cooking & Water, Pay Rent On-line, Renovated Units, On Bus Route, Balconies/Patios, Wall to wall carpet, 1,2, & 2 Br Duplex, Swimming Pool, Controlled Access, 5% disct. Gov't & Seniors.	1 Brs Starting at \$959 202-509-0958 parknaylorapartments.com	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	

ready to rent DIRECTORY



City	Address	Description	Contact	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3+ Bedroom	Laundry on Site	Metro Accessible	Parking Available	Pets Allowed	Fitness Ctr on Site	Secure Entry	UTILS Included	W & D in Unit
DC		Nash Place 2900 Nash Place SE Washington DC 20019	Spacious garden style 1bedroom units with screened in porches, hardwood floors and secured entry. Apartments are located near Metro Green and Orange lines. Bus stop at the corner and two blocks from Pennsylvania Ave and Capitol Hill.	1BRs Starting at \$800 202-544-9550	X			X X					X		
DC		Meadow Green Courts 3539 A St., SE Washington, DC 20019	\$100 Off Every Unit for 12 months! Spacious floorplans, large walk-in closets, dishwashers and A/C. 5% Disc. to all Metro & DC Gov't. Housing Choice Vouchers welcome for rents within voucher limits. *Rent concession incl. in price	1,2,3 BRs Starting at \$710* 866-653-9652	X X X	X X X	X X X								
DC		Garden Village Apartments 1720 Trenton Pl., SE Washington, DC 20020	Gorgeous garden style apartment homes. Onsite shopping center(Shops at Park Village). FBR Branch Boys and Girls Club/THE ARC on site. Our property is conveniently located near Giant, IHOP and Southern Ave. Metro Station. Rental units include the following great amenities, stainless steel appliances, choice of hardwood floors. Call today to schedule an appointment to view our beautiful community!	1, 2BRs Starting at \$835 888-272-7113 GardenVillage@wcsmith.com	X X		X X X						X		
DC		Eagles Crossing 1116 Irvington St., SW Washington, DC 20032	Comfort, convenience and quality... Eagle's Crossing has it all. Our garden-style spacious apartments offer beautifully landscaped grounds with easy access to public transportation, minutes away from downtown, 295, and the Metro. \$99 MOVE IN SPECIAL! (call for details)	Studio, 1, 2 BRs From the \$700s 866-233-0132 eandggroup.com	X X X		X	X X					X		
MD		Gateway Gardens 4203 58th Avenue Bladensburg, MD 20710	Located in suburban Maryland. Gateway Gardens offers comfort and convenience minutes away from shopping, restaurants, entertainment, Metro bus and Metro rail. A modern apartment that is cable-ready, not to mention a balcony or patio.	1,2,3BR's Starting at \$980 888-448-9013 gatewaygardens.net	X X X		X X						X		
MD		The Coronado 5200- 5201 Quincy Street Baldensburg, MD 20710	1BRs- 2BRs ranging from \$850-\$950 + electric. Very spacious beautiful 1BRs, fully carpeted, eat in kitchen, balcony, large bathroom, secured entry.	1BRs Starting at \$850 202-544-9550	X		X X						X		
MD		Colonial Village 908 Marcy Avenue Oxon Hill, MD 20745	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UTILITIES INCLUDED! • Located minutes from Metro, the Beltway, downtown D.C. and Virginia. • A lovely garden community one minute from the renovated Eastover shopping center. • Walk to elementary school and 5 minutes to Metro. • Minutes to the National Harbor • Large balconies/patios 	1,2,3 BRs Starting at \$830 877-219-5035	X X X	X X X	X X X						X		
MD		Parkland Village 6004 Parkland Court District Hts, MD 20747	2BR Special move in within 10 days of application approval receive \$500 off first months rent!! Parkland Village is dedicated to providing a comfortable and affordable home. We are convenient to the Capital Beltway, schools, shopping and just minutes from the heart of the nation's capital.	1 & 2 bedrooms Starting at \$1102.00 1-866-310-7466 www.herculesliving.com	X			X							
MD		Woodland Springs 6617 Atwood Street District Heights, MD 2074786	Holiday Special-Move in by Dec. 21st receive half off Security Deposit!! Free Application Fee w/Ad!! Woodland Springs is the perfect community for you and your family to live the life you want. If you are looking for a high quality, family and senior friendly community then Woodland Springs is the place for you!	1-4BR's Starting at \$830 301-760-4270 woodlandsprings@sheltergrp.com	X X X X	X X X X	X X X								
MD		River Pointe Apartment Homes 8340 Indian Head Hwy Ft. Washington, MD 20744	Great Location! Minutes from National Harbour off Route 210 East! Generously sized floor plans with modern kitchens and a balcony or patio. All Utilities Included!	1,2,3 and 4BR's Starting at \$1125 877-535-4489 RiverPointemd.com	X X X X	X X X X	X X X						X		

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MD		Sutton Walk-Lenox Court Cambridge Crossing 5306 85th Ave. New Carrollton, MD 20784	SAVE UP TO \$500* Comfortable, spacious apartment homes just inside the Beltway a beautiful tree-lined neighborhood. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to Metro • Washer & Dryer in each apartment • Huge Closets * Call for details	1 BRS Starting at \$1004 877-363-7231 SuttonWalk.com	Studio	X													
MD		Southview 1309 Southview Dr. Oxon Hill, MD 20745	Open the door to the good life at Southview. With these spacious, affordable and conveniently located apartment homes, the good life is waiting for you inside and out. An easy commute takes you downtown by car or Metro, while back home, recreation areas and our two pools keep everyone active. Don't deny yourself the lifestyle you know you deserve. Visit Southview and get ready to live it!	Studio, 1, 2, 3BR's Starting at \$753 888-414-6645 southviewapts.com	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X		
MD		Oxon Hill Village 2260 Alice Avenue Oxon Hill, MD 20745	Nestled between the District of Columbia and historic Virginia, Oxon Hill Village offers a variety of floorplans, free services and amenities including a fitness center, indoor gymnasium, business center and all utilities included.	1BR- 3BR's Starting at \$1050 888-512-6025	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X		
MD		Parkview Gardens 6400 Riverdale Road Riverdale, MD 20737	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gated community with updated apartments ■ Granite countertops, new appliances and cabinets! ■ Indoor and outdoor pools! ■ An unbeatable location close to shopping, public transportation, BW Parkway and 495. ■ FREE 6 WEEK SUMMER CAMP ■ FREE GAS COOKING & HEAT 	1,2,3 BRs start at \$920 877-219-5030 parkviewgardensapartments.com	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X			
MD		Woodvale Apartments 13831 Castle Blvd. Silver Spring, MD 20904	<u>CURRENT SPECIAL...</u> 1/2 month OFF + \$500 off 1st month Rent Move in by 12/28	1-3 BRs; some w/den from \$1109 888-813-6507 Refreshurlifestyle.com	X	X	X		X	X	X	X					X		
MD		Montgomery Towers 415 Silver Spring Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910	Very spacious apartments with parquet floors, eat in kitchens, balconies, large kitchen, secured entry.	1BRS Starting at \$1200 443-838-8095	X			X	X								X	X	
MD		Hillbrook Towers 515 Thayer Avenue Silver Spring, MD 20910	<u>PAY \$599 YOUR FIRST MONTH WITH A 12 MONTH LEASE!</u> Newly renovated mid-rise apts on a lovely residential street close to the center of Silver Spring. Elevator, CAC, disposals, assigned free parking. Walk to Metro. Housing Vouchers Welcome	1 and 2 BRs Starting at \$1025 888-833-9784	X		X	X	X	X						X	X		
MD		Montgomery Trace Apts. 14120 Grand Pre Road Silver Spring, MD 20906	<u>Live in Style & Convenience!</u> Our property features large layouts, washer/dryer in unit, 2 tone paint, new carpet and many upgrades throughout. Located near Glenmont Metro and a short drive to DC, Bethesda, and Silver Spring. Home is waiting for you and also your pet. Military Discr.	1 BRs Starting at \$1104 301-460-4510 montgomerytraceapartments.com	X	X			X	X	X							X	
MD		Waterford Tower 14000 Castle Blvd. Silver Spring, MD 20904	Utilities Included! Experience Hi-rise living at its Best! Newly renovated apartment homes are not only stylish and comfortable...they are also enormous & offer stunning views. Call or stop by today and see for yourself! <u>Up to 1.5 Months FREE!</u>	1&1 BRs from \$1232 888-544-7357 WaterfordTowerApts.com	X	X	X	X				X	X			X	X	X	X
MD		Paddington Square 8800 Lanier Drive Silver Spring, MD 20910	<u>MOVE IN NOW...</u> Location & privacy in a lush setting. Renovated apt. homes nestled between Connecticut Ave & Georgia Ave. Enjoy the amenities and manicured grounds tucked away in a true neighborhood! Home never felt so good. Income Restrictions Apply.	2 Brs Starting at \$1452 240-752-6947 paddingtonsquare.com			X		X	X	X	X				X			

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VA		Glebe House 25 West Glebe Road Alexandria, VA 22305	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furnished & Unfurnished FREE Cable and HBO FREE 90-Day membership to YMCA FREE WIFI in the business center Prime location minutes to Washington DC, Pentagon, Crystal City, Old Town, Reagan National Airport, Beltway and 395 	Studio, 1 BRs Starting at \$1004 240-455-3567 glebehouse.net	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Kings Gardens Apartments 6300 S.Kings Hwy Alexandria, VA 22306	Kings Gardens delightfully combines city convenience with suburban charm. This Alexandria address is within a short distance from schools, shopping, and the Huntington Metro Rail Station. Residents enjoy beautiful landscaping and an on-site pool.	1BR-3BR's + Dens Starting at \$ 1165 866-980-9358 kgleasing@smcmail.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Lloyd Apartments 800 Tennessee Avenue Alexandria, VA 22305	Lloyd Apartments offer expansive floor plans from 650 to 870 square feet with utilities included. Abundant light from windows in every room, including the kitchen and bathroom. Elegant foyers and hallways boast hardwood floors. The bathroom is equipped with a soaking tub and shower with tile flooring. We provide the convenience of on-site laundry facilities, extra storage units, and free parking.	1, 2 BRs Starting at \$1200 240-455-5467 lloydapartments.com	X	X	X	X	
VA		Fillmore Garden Apartments 805 S. Walter Reed Drive Arlington, VA 22204	An affordable community nestled among tranquil trees and in the heart of Arlington. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Close to cutting edge restaurants, lively clubs and quick access anywhere in DC * Spacious units with lots of light * Free utilities 	1, 2 BRs Starting at \$1200 240-455-5092 fillmoregardenapts.com	X	X	X	X	
VA		The Parliaments 7409 Eastmoreland Rd. Annandale, VA 22003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Utilities included Central Air & Heat Huge Walk-in Closets Pets Welcome Very Spacious Apartments 	Studios, 1, 2, 3BRs Starting at \$1195 866-796-5301 parliaments@smcmail.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Southern Towers 4901 Seminary Road Alexandria, VA 22301	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to Pentagon & I-395 Convenience store on-site Free on-site parking • Metrobus accessible Small pets welcome No security deposit & move-in fees 	Efficiency, 1, 2, 3 BRs Starting at \$950 703-485-4154 southerntowersapts.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Potomac Towers 2001 North Adams Street Arlington, VA 22201	FREE MONTH'S RENT (on select apartments) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newly remodeled apartments Newly remodeled lobby w/Business Center Fitness Center, Pool & Sundeck 24-Hour Front Desk Service 3 Blocks to Court House Metro Easy access to Key Bridge, Rt. 66 & GW Parkway 	Studio, 1, 2 BRs Starting at \$1415 703-485-4903 potomactowers.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Shirlington House 4201 S. 31st Street Arlington, VA 22206	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spacious floor plans Garage parking available 24 hour Fitness Center Convenience store on-site Convenient public transportation to Metro, Pentagon City & Crystal City Easy access to I-395 <p>ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!</p>	Studio, Efficiency, 1, 2 BRs Starting at \$1230 703-595-4233 shirlingtonhouseapts.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Dominion Arms 333 South Glebe Rd. Arlington, VA 22204	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilities Included Beauty shop, barber shop & drycleaners Close to Route 50 Laundry rooms on each floor Metro Bus to Ballston & Pentagon Metro Outdoor swimming pool Small pets welcome 	Studio, 1BR, 2BR starting at \$1120 703-822-5558 dominionarmsapts.com	X	X	X	X	X
VA		Dominion Plaza 1200 S Courthouse Rd Arlington, VA 22204	Featuring reasonably priced, newly remodeled apartments overlooking scenic Army/Navy Country Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parquet hardwood floor or wall-to-wall as avail Fitness center, pool & sundeck Picnic and barbecue areas on grounds Business Center utilities included 	Studio, 1BR, 2BR starting at \$1105 703-436-1516 dominionplazaapts.com	X	X	X	X	X

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VA		Monticello Gardens 3212 Allen Street #101 Falls Church, VA 22042	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 swimming pools & 5 playgrounds • 24 hour maintenance • Adjacent to Loehmann's Plaza, Shopping, New Super Giant and New Library • Conv to Metro & minutes fr Dunn Loring Metro Sta • No security deposit & move-in fees <u>SHORT TERM LEASE AVAIL. on 2 BR ONLY</u> 	1, 2 BRs Starting at \$1285 703-436-1510 monticellogardenapts.com	Studio	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3+ Bedroom	Laundry on Site	Metro Accessible	Parking Available	Pets Allowed	Fitness Ctr on Site	Secure Entry	UTILS Included	W & D in Unit
VA		Fairfield Crossing 7703 Lee Highway Falls Church, VA 22042	<u>Move-in TODAY...NO RENT Til Jan!!!</u> Be the first to live in an apt. with everything NEW! Each home has its own Washer & Dryer. Pool, jogging trails/bike paths, tennis courts and New children's play center & Business Kiosk! You'll LOVE Merrifield Town Center & Brand New Target! Elementary school right next door. Quiet tree-lined streets & great open space. Minutes from everything, yet secluded.	1,2,3 BRs Starting at \$1245 866-255-0773 fairfieldcrossingapts.com	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X
VA		The Courts at Historic Manassas 9203 Prince William St. Manassas, VA 20110	Welcome to the Courts at Historic Manassas! Just steps from the VRE and downtown Historic Manassas, our beautiful new residences are just what you've been looking for. <u>FREE 1.5 months rent!!!</u>	1-2BR's Starting at \$1430 1 and 1/2 months rent free! 703-365-9657 Leasing@thecourtsapts.com	X	X										
VA		The Commons of McLean 1653 Anderson Road McLean, VA 22102	CALL FOR SPECIALS \$1712 ON RENOVATED UNITS Here you'll find a space that's uniquely yours, newly renovated and stylish, great for showing off at your next party. An uncrowded space that's spread out amongst 40 acres of tree-filled gardens. Yet a space that's in the heart of McLean life, blocks from Fortune 500 companies.	1 BR, 2 BR Starting at \$1712 866-954-6692 commonsofmclean.com	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
VA		Reids Prospect Luxury Apartments 4640 Daisy Reid Avenue Woodbridge, VA 22192	1 Month free on select units! Limited Availability Hurry in to our Leasing Center for details.	1&2BR's Starting at \$1300 571-659-0453 reidsprospectapts.com	X	X				X	X				X	X

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Belting From the Barricade

Every song is a showstopper in this uneven adaptation of 'Les Misérables'

Les Misérables (PG-13)

► **Director:** Tom Hooper
 ► **Stars:** Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe and Anne Hathaway
In a Nutshell: A film version of the popular musical set in 19th-century France that follows Jean Valjean, who is hunted by ruthless policeman Javert while the country is in the midst of political upheaval.

Film Review

There are moments early on in "Les Misérables" when viewers may feel like they're about to witness a bona fide disasterpiece, one of those spectacular miscalculations that can be almost as entertaining — almost — as a superbly executed work of audacious ambition and scope.

For better or worse, though, this adaptation of the mega-hit Broadway musical fits neither description, largely because it lives in that kinda-sorta, OK-not-great in-between.

Less a fully realized film than a strung-together series of set pieces, showstoppers, diva moments and production numbers, "Les Misérables" contains multitudes — not only in the form of a huge cast but in its own contradictions. If, by the film's inescapably stirring final half hour, even the most inured audience members find themselves weeping openly for the story's tragic heroines, plucky revolutionaries and idealistic young lovers, it's less a testament to Claude-Michel

Schonberg and Alain Boublil's strident music and lyrics or Tom Hooper's wildly uneven direction than to the fact that somehow the wheels don't come off entirely.

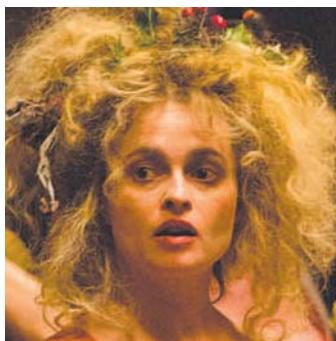
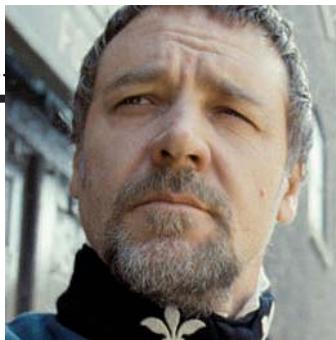
But enough faint praise. There's plenty to cheer in "Les Misérables" (opening Christmas Day), including some genuinely astonishing breakout performances. Eddie Redmayne delivers the most moving and memorable performance in the film as the young firebrand Marius, who along with his fellow students is caught up in France's political upheavals in the 19th century.

Based on Victor Hugo's novel, "Les Misérables" juxtaposes Marius' fight for political justice with the more personal struggle of Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman), whom we meet in the film's opening scene as an enslaved prisoner. We also meet Valjean's nemesis, Javert (Russell Crowe), the vengeful police inspector who, when Valjean breaks parole, will pursue him obsessively.

Backstory

Vibrant Vocals

"Les Misérables" director Tom Hooper made the commendable decision to have the cast perform their songs live rather than lip-synch to prerecorded vocals. This lends the film a welcome air of spontaneity and excitement (it's more an opera than a musical, as the film lacks any spoken dialogue of note). (TWP)



composed entirely of centerpieces belongs to Anne Hathaway, who as the tragic heroine Fantine sings another of the memorable numbers in a show of surprisingly few hummable tunes. Her rendition of "I Dreamed a Dream" — delivered in shattering close-up — is a melodramatic tour de force of vocal and physical expression.

But there are times when Hathaway's and Jackman's Broadway-baby voices sound brassy and labored, especially when Jackman shares a number with Crowe, who possesses the mellow, earthy tones of a crooner.

Helena Bonham Carter and Sacha Baron Cohen, as Mr. and Mrs. Thenardier, bring welcome dashes of slapstick humor and crass bad taste.

Those moments of levity are sorely needed in a production weighed down by a crushing sense of bombast and self-importance.

There's no denying that "Les Misérables" ultimately succeeds in gathering up the audience and transporting it on a stirring, swelling wave of feeling. But even when they're dabbing away tears during the last of the big numbers, they might wonder whether they're feeling less uplifted than run over.

ANN HORNADAY (THE WASHINGTON POST)

The centerpiece of a movie composed entirely of centerpieces belongs to Anne Hathaway, who sings one of the memorable numbers in a show of surprisingly few hummable tunes.

lookout entertainment

The Reelist



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Love, Surprisingly

I bet you weren't expecting the best moment of your life. Bet your worst caught you off guard, too. Life's surprises are what the extraordinary "Rust and Bone" (it's in French; deal) is about.

Marion Cotillard and Matthias Schoenaerts play two people whose

lives intersect only because of chance, and only because of pain. They are surrounded by violence, caused by an indifferent nature or cruel humanity.

Through it — because of it, in spite of it — they find small but blossoming moments of connection. And every one of those moments brings the risk of pain, because this is how things are with human beings: Our need for one another is so deep, while our capacity to hurt one another is so great.

In life and in the movie, out Friday, respect and friendship and attraction and love are links of the same chain, and that chain can wrap around your heart so tightly that you can't tell if what you're feeling is pleasure or pain.

In most movies, love solves a problem. "Rust and Bone" recognizes that love can make life harder, that it can do nothing to stop the cruelty and crap that life can hand you. All love can do is make sure there's someone next to you in the dark times, when the tears are pouring, someone who can remind you that the lights will come up, the sun will rise and, though you may be changed, you will stand again.

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As with "Knocked Up," director Judd Apatow cast his wife, Leslie Mann, and his daughters, Maude and Iris Apatow, alongside Paul Rudd in "This Is 40."

Everyday Strife

For a Judd Apatow movie, 'This Is 40' is oddly short on laughs

Film Review

As unstructured as a sweatshirt, "This Is 40" nevertheless is a comfortable fit for its stars, Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann, who bring a laid-back chemistry and prickly energy to writer-director Judd Apatow's amiably angsty comedy about a married couple facing midlife. Play-

ing slightly older versions of their characters from Apatow's 2007 hit "Knocked Up," Rudd and Mann bring considerable appeal to Pete and Debbie, a loving if bickering husband and wife, both of whom are on the cusp of 40.

If only the film itself were half as charming. Overlong and unnecessarily sex-obsessed, "This Is 40" feels haphazard and unfinished.

Taking place during the run-up to Pete's birthday party, the movie is built as a largely plotless string of vignettes — some funny, some

This Is 40 (R)

- **Director:** Judd Apatow
- **Stars:** Paul Rudd, Leslie Mann, Maude Apatow and Megan Fox
- **In a Nutshell:** A look at the lives of Pete and Debbie from "Knocked Up" as they both near 40.

not, some telling, some trite. When it works, as with a recurrent joke about Pete escaping from his wife and two daughters by retreating to the bathroom to play Scrabble on

his iPad, the film feels honest and the characters recognizably neurotic yet fresh. When it doesn't, as with repeated references to Pete's and Debbie's struggles with his-and-hers addictions — his to cupcakes, hers to cigarettes — it comes across like any other lazy marital yuk-fest.

Otherwise, the movie is carried on the backs of its talented cast, including Maude and Iris Apatow — the director and Mann's daughters — as Pete and Debbie's kids. Megan Fox also has a funny, self-aware turn as a lusty saleswoman at Debbie's dress shop.

Sequels

Paul Rudd will soon revisit another of his beloved characters: Brian Fantana, from 2004's Judd Apatow-produced "Anchorman." Rudd and the rest of the Channel 4 News Team (including Will Ferrell and Steve Carell) return in "Anchorman 2" on Dec. 20, 2013. (EXPRESS)

The story chugs along on predictable fuel: Pete and Debbie's financial troubles, their sex life (or lack thereof), parenting headaches. There's no real crisis until the final half-hour, when Pete's birthday party finally arrives, bringing with it a bizarre, dark tonal shift.

"This Is 40" is a good-faith effort at a wry and realistic relationship comedy. The sad thing is that the outtakes in the closing credits are the funniest thing about it. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Lawmakers Rebuke Bin Laden Film

Three senators claim 'Zero Dark Thirty' is 'grossly inaccurate'

Film

In a letter sent Wednesday to Sony Pictures Entertainment, three senators say the movie "Zero Dark Thirty" is misleading and "grossly inaccurate" in its suggestion that torture produced the tip that led the



COLUMBIA PICTURES

Mark Strong portrays a top CIA official in Oscar contender "Zero Dark Thirty."

U.S. military to find terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

The filmmakers dispute that interpretation and encourage people to see the movie, already considered a top Oscar contender, before characterizing it. The film opens nationwide next month.

In the letter, the members of the Senate Intelligence committee — Dianne Feinstein, Carl Levin and John McCain — insist that Sony and its president and CEO, Michael

Lynton, have an obligation to alter the movie and make clear that the portrayed torture in the hunt for bin Laden is not based on fact.

"The fundamental problem is that people who see 'Zero Dark Thirty' will believe that the events it portrays are facts," the three senators wrote. "The film therefore has the potential to shape American public opinion in a disturbing and misleading manner."

DONNA CASSATA (AP)

entertainment lookout

When Disaster Strikes

'The Impossible' uses the 2004 tsunami to explore family bonds in desperate times

Film Review

The catastrophic nature of the 2004 tsunami in the Indian Ocean that opens the fact-based drama "The Impossible" is rendered with nightmarish realism by Spanish director J.A. Bayona ("The Orphanage"). The wall of water looks harrowingly real as it slams into the Thai resort where the film is set and where tourists Henry and Maria (Ewan McGregor and Naomi Watts) are spending the holidays with their three young sons.

Equally realistic-looking is the shocking aftermath: Maria's bloody wounds from slamming into underwater debris; piles of corpses; uprooted trees and uprooted lives.

But what is rendered even more convincingly — and with heart-wrenching poignancy — is the anguish of separation experienced



Before the wave, Henry and Maria (Ewan McGregor and Naomi Watts) stand with their sons. After, Maria protects what she has left.



JOSE HARO

The Impossible (PG-13)

- **Director:** J.A. Bayona
- **Stars:** Naomi Watts, Ewan McGregor and Tom Holland
- **In a Nutshell:** The story of a family torn apart by one of the worst natural catastrophes of our time.

by Maria, who's swept away with her oldest son, Lucas (Tom Holland), and by Henry, who surfaces with sons Thomas (Samuel Joslin) and Simon (Oaklee Pendergast).

After the intense opening sequence, the film tracks the efforts of the family to reunite. It's not a momentous story about heroism

writ large, but an intimate tale of the small acts of kindness and connection that can occur when people are most desperate.

The film is studded with many tiny, lovely moments. In one, Geraldine Chaplin plays a stranger offering comfort to Thomas and Simon, who have been relocated to

difference?" one of the boys asks. "I don't know," she answers. "It's a beautiful mystery."

Sitting under a star-lit sky, the woman explains to the boys that some of the points of light twinkling are from distant stars that have since burnt out and that some of what they're seeing might be light from something long dead. "How can you tell the

It's not a story about heroism writ large, but an intimate tale of small acts of kindness.

difference?" one of the boys asks. "I don't know," she answers. "It's a beautiful mystery."

But "The Impossible" isn't otherwise interested in cosmic mysteries, or courage, or even the ins and outs of how (and whether) Henry and Maria's family survives. Rather, it's about how life can suddenly shift our priorities away from the petty concerns that preoccupy us. It's a movie that reminds us about what really matters, and why. MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN
(THE WASHINGTON POST)

Don't Want To Know Jack

Tom Cruise made a big mistake signing on to 'Jack Reacher'

Film Review

Presumably taking a long, self-indulgent glance at his What Would Clint Do? bracelet, Tom Cruise takes on the iconic role of surly vigilante in "Jack Reacher," resulting in a mismatch of wincingly epic proportions.

This is a movie designed primarily to put its leading man in

as many clichéd, macho postures as possible. Reacher is a laconic Iraq War veteran summoned by an alleged sniper to exonerate him for mass murder. Working in cahoots with a beautiful defense attorney (Rosamund Pike), Reacher is a supposedly reluctant hero, but with his penchant for grandstanding it's difficult to imagine him turning down any opportunity to show off a nearly bottomless — and increasingly monotonous — store of Cool Guy-approved skills.

It's not that Cruise can't be That Guy. He plays a perfectly credi-



Tom Cruise was not the right man to bring author Lee Child's iconic vigilante Jack Reacher to life on the big screen.

KAREN BALLARD

Jack Reacher (PG-13)

- **Director:** Christopher McQuarrie
- **Stars:** Tom Cruise and Rosamund Pike
- **In a Nutshell:** Jack Reacher investigates the case of a trained military sniper who allegedly shot five people at random.

ble action hero in the "Mission: Impossible" franchise, and there are few pleasures as profound as watching him subvert his own all-American screen image (see: "Magnolia" and "Tropic Thunder"). But "Jack Reacher" is a wildly ill-advised miscalculation, with Cruise's virtually unstoppable appeal butting uncomfortably against Reacher's alternately cocky and downright crude cynicism.

ANN HORNADAY (THE WASHINGTON POST)



also opening

► **12.21:** Experience Cirque du Soleil's high-flying acrobatics on the big screen in the 3-D movie "Worlds Away."

► **12.25:** Billy Crystal and Bette Midler, above, offer family-friendly laughs in "Parental Guidance." (EXPRESS)



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Fast Facts:

- ✓ Workshops meet for eight consecutive Saturdays from March 2 – April 27.
- ✓ Sessions run from 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at various sites throughout Washington, D.C.
- ✓ Scholarships will be based on an essay, stories produced in the workshop and participation in all eight sessions.
- ✓ All students attending high schools in the Washington area are encouraged to apply.
- ✓ Applications must be postmarked or delivered by Friday, January 25, 2013.

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entertainment lookout



Slave-turned-bounty hunter Django (Jamie Foxx) faces off against a plantation owner (Leonardo DiCaprio) in "Django Unchained."

Tarantino 'Unchained'

The filmmaker's new movie is yet another bloody revenge tale

Film Review

For his latest bloodfest, "Django Unchained," Quentin Tarantino largely replays his other bloodfests, especially "Inglourious Basterds."

In that 2009 tale of wickedly savage retribution, Allied Jewish soldiers get to rewrite World War II history by going on a killing spree of Nazis. In Tarantino's new tale of wickedly savage retribution, a black man (Jamie Foxx) gets to rewrite Deep South history by going on a killing spree of white slave owners and overseers just before the Civil War.

Granted, there's something gleefully satisfying in watching evil people get what they have coming. But "Django Unchained" (opening Christmas Day) is Tarantino at his most puerile and least inventive, the premise offering little more than

Django Unchained (R)

- **Director:** Quentin Tarantino
- **Stars:** Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz and Leonardo DiCaprio
- **In a Nutshell:** With the help of his mentor, a slave-turned-bounty hunter sets out to rescue his wife from a brutal Mississippi plantation owner.

cold, nasty revenge and barrels of squishing, squirting blood.

The usual Tarantino genre mish-mash — a dab of blaxploitation here, a dollop of Spaghetti Western there — is so familiar now that it's tiresome, more so because the filmmaker continues to linger over every scene, letting conversations run on interminably and gunfights carry on to grotesque excess.

Tarantino always gets good actors who deliver, though, and it's the performances by Foxx, Leonardo DiCaprio, Christoph Waltz and Samuel L. Jackson that make the film intermittently entertaining. Foxx's Django starts literally

in chains, part of a line of slaves on their way to the auction block. Genteel bounty hunter King Schultz (Waltz) turns up searching for Django because the slave can identify three elusive overseers with a price on their heads. Next thing you know, Django's apprenticing as a bounty hunter, forming a partnership with King that takes them deeper south in hopes of freeing Django's wife, Broomhilda (Kerry Washington).

The trail leads them to a plantation owned by Calvin Candie (DiCaprio), a dandy who trains slaves for barbarous fighting.

The premise offers little more than cold, nasty revenge and barrels of squirting blood.

There are morbidly funny moments as Django and King infiltrate the plantation posing as buyers. But the humor coexists uneasily and often clumsily alongside a story so charged with racial enmity.

Tarantino's solution to everything is to put guns and dynamite into people's hands, and while that might be good escapism in a gangster story, it feels flimsy and childish here. DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

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lookout entertainment

Now Playing

Last weekend's top 5 films at the box office

THE GUILT TRIP (PG-13, 96 minutes)

Anne Fletcher's lifeless comedy about an overbearing mother and her exasperated adult son features a series of clunky, episodic scenes of ersatz intimacy in which Seth Rogen — playing an organic scientist named Andy Brewster — tries desperately to play off of Barbra Streisand as she preens and poses for a camera she wants very badly to still love her.

As Joyce Brewster, a single mom who accompanies Andy on a sales trip across the country, Streisand asks the audience to believe she'd actually be wowed by a budget motel and the prospect of a free continental breakfast. That's just one of myriad whoppers that this patently dishonest, utterly undistinguished enterprise tries to get past viewers who might expect more. A.H.

1

THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY (PG-13, 170 minutes) "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" has finally arrived, not on wings of gossamer fancy but with a hairy-footed thud. As the first of director Peter Jackson's trilogy, it may well please the franchise's most devoted fans, who will no doubt savor the chance to traipse through J.R.R. Tolkien's imaginative

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entertainment lookout

landscape populated by dwarfs, elves, goblins, trolls and the appealingly winsome title character. But purely on its own terms, "An Unexpected Journey" can't be seen as anything but a disappointment, a dreary, episodic series of lumbering walk-talk-fight sequences that often looks less like genuine cinema than a large-scale video game. A.H.

HYDE PARK ON HUDSON (R, 95 minutes) Choosing Bill Murray to play Franklin D. Roosevelt looks like a blatant case of stunt casting. But within just a few minutes of "Hyde Park on Hudson," it becomes clear that Murray makes an inspired choice, his ineffable appeal melding flawlessly with Roosevelt's own hidden depths. What's more, the political capital Murray has earned with audiences over the years turns out to be crucial in this alternately charming and unsettling story, which transpires over a pivotal summer weekend in 1939, when Britain's King George VI visited FDR's Hudson Valley estate in order to gain the U.S. president's support in the coming war. That also was a time when Roosevelt was pursuing one of a number of extramarital affairs, in this case with a distant cousin named Daisy Suckley. A.H.

LIFE OF PI (PG, 127 minutes) The story of Piscine Molitor Patel, also known as Pi, "Life of Pi" begins with an Edenic panorama of his youth, which was spent in a small zoo run by his father in the former French colony of Pondicherry, India. When the Patels decide to move to Canada, taking the animals with them



The prolonged adventure that is "The Hobbit" finally begins with the first of three films starring Martin Freeman.

on a cargo ship, the trip is interrupted by a ruinous storm, resulting in Pi being thrown overboard, his only salvation a lifeboat he must share with the zoo's ferocious Bengal tiger, Richard Parker. A.H.

3 LINCOLN (PG-13, 149 minutes) A peculiar, powerful alchemy takes hold in "Lincoln," Steven Spielberg's masterful portrait of the 16th U.S. president.

Through that strange mix of realism, artifice, intimacy and scope that cinema uniquely possesses, viewers find themselves transported to 19th-century Washington, where Abraham Lincoln — portrayed in a surpassingly sympathetic performance by Daniel Day-Lewis — has just been re-elected to a second term. Spielberg infuses "Lincoln" with energy, acumen, surprising humor and

the unabashed affection for his subject that most Americans will wholly understand and probably share. A.H.

PLAYING FOR KEEPS (PG-13, 106 minutes) A dreary, dimly unfunny excuse for a romantic comedy, "Playing for Keeps" is an undistinguished, impact-free watch-checker that will soon be vaguely distracting transatlantic travelers who forgot to carry on their

iPads. As a former soccer star roped into coaching his son's amateur team, Gerard Butler turns on his native Scottish brogue and unshaven "charm" in fending off the advances of the various soccer moms who throw themselves at him with libidinous abandon. This clunky by-the-numbers place-holder serves to remind us all what dreck Hollywood is capable of pawning

Continued on page 24

5

LIFE OF PI (PG, 127 minutes) The story of Piscine Molitor Patel, also known as Pi, "Life of Pi" begins with an Edenic panorama of his youth, which was spent in a small zoo run by his father in the former French colony of Pondicherry, India. When the Patels decide to move to Canada, taking the animals with them

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LAURA LINNEY

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PG-13 GuiltTripMovie.com

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lookout entertainment



This is a scene from "The Guilt Trip," but it might as well be a photo of a mother and son buying tickets to see "The Guilt Trip."

NowPlaying

Continued from page 23

off on unsuspecting audiences. **A.H. RED DAWN** (PG-13, 94 minutes) There's good news and bad news about "Red Dawn," a remake of the 1984 action film about high school kids from the American heartland forced to become guerrilla warriors when their small town is invaded by foreign troops. This amped-up retread, which substitutes North Korean soldiers for the original Soviet bad guy, is a big improvement. The bad news: That's not saying much. Jed, a brooding Marine on home leave, is left in charge of his brother Matt and several of Matt's teenage friends. Jed quickly recruits the kids to the cause of resistance, and the rest of the film is spent showing their training and tactics. M.O.

2 RISE OF THE GUARDIANS (PG, 97 minutes) The arrival of the bogeyman, known as Pitch Black (Jude Law), sets the story in motion. Pitch is the bringer of nightmares. His resurgence mobilizes the Guardians — Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy and the Sandman — who must accept the help of the untested and somewhat irresponsible young fifth spirit, Jack Frost. The movie may not have been on your Christmas list, but with its fresh take on the power of myths, it is one present you won't want to return. M.O.

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK

(R, 117 minutes) As the movie opens, Pat Solitano (Bradley Cooper) is being discharged from a psychiatric facility, having been sent there after an incident involving his estranged wife. Meanwhile, he meets Tiffany (Jennifer Lawrence), a sharp-tongued young widow with an acute nonsense-detector and a knack for brutal honesty equaled only by Pat's own impulsive, socially disastrous candor. From the moment they meet and compare medication history, Pat and Tiffany settle into a staccato, argumentative rhythm. A.H.

4 SKYFALL (PG-13, 145 minutes) To succeed, a James Bond movie must traffic in equal parts sophistication and pure preposterousness, a winking willingness not to take itself so very seriously, but with writing, acting and production values of the highest order. All of those elements are on hand in "Skyfall," which at the outset finds Bond (Daniel Craig) in Istanbul, pursuing a bad guy through bazaars and over rooftops in a ludicrous motorcycle chase that at one point finds Bond making a wittily blase entrance into a moving train car. That episode will somehow go all pear-shaped, though, sending Bond into something of an existential spiral. A.H.

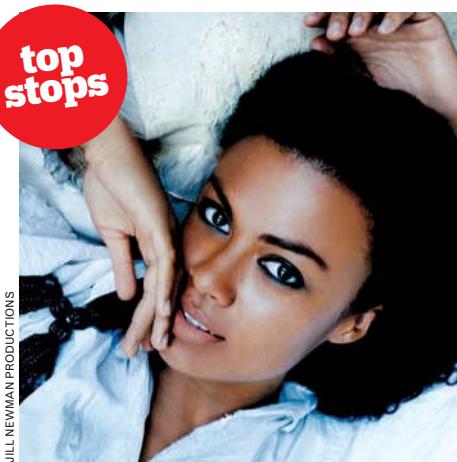
THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN — PART 2 (PG-13, 116 minutes) For those with no vested interest in this protracted and supernatural soap opera, this will be, unsurprisingly, a silly and somewhat cheesily made waste of time. It

opens with our once-mortal heroine, Bella (Kristen Stewart), who has just given birth to a half-human, half-vampire baby, Renesmee, with her new, undead husband, Edward (Robert Pattinson). The story clicks in after word reaches the Volturi — the vampire world's governing elite — that Renesmee may be a vampire baby who threatens to expose their carefully hidden vampire subculture. As Aro, the leader of the Volturi, Michael Sheen is a rare delight as he attempts to determine whether Edward and his family must be punished and Renesmee destroyed. It ain't much, but it passes for drama — if by "drama" you mean a climactic showdown in a field of snow. M.O.

WRECK-IT RALPH (PG, 93 minutes) The 3-D animated comedy is the story of a goofy bad guy out of a retro arcade game who "game jumps," leaving his cloistered universe in search of fulfillment in other games. It's a clever and original idea, but the narrative itself is overly busy, noisy and unengaging, with little of the heart that won viewers over in the "Toy Story" franchise. In the title role of a hulking destroyer who dreams of becoming a hero, John C. Reilly manages to evoke the pathos of an outsider. And Sarah Silverman is pretty perfect as Vanellope von Schweetz, a tomboyish pre-adolescent driver in a kiddie drag-racing game. Like Ralph, Vanellope aspires to video-game greatness. Their friendship is what ultimately drives the movie. M.O.

► REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S ANN HORNADAY AND MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN. FOR FULL REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS, SEE WWW.GOINGOUTGUIDE.COM/MOVIES.

entertainment lookout



top stops

JILL NEWMAN PRODUCTIONS

1 Born This Way

Amel Larrieux grew up in a building full of artists in New York's West Village, constantly surrounded by people who made a living from their creative talents. No wonder she formed a band (Groove Theory, which gave her a gold record by the age of 23) and then struck out on her own in the R&B world.

The Howard Theatre, 620 T St. NW; Fri., 8 p.m., \$40; 202-803-2899, Thehowardtheatre.com. (Shaw)

2 The Cheapest Laughs Around

Frequent DC Improv host and D.C.-area comic Tyler Richardson emcees the State Theatre's \$5 Comedy Night — a chance to see a group of local comedians (including Sara Armour) for less than the cost of one cup of Starbucks' new Costa Rica Finca Palmilera coffee (\$7! Yikes). **State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church; Sat., 8 p.m., \$5; 703-237-0300, Thestateatre.com.**

3 Every Time a Bell Rings ...

Tiny Fairfax company Hub Theatre made a huge splash earlier this year when it won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding New Play. It's offering a new spin on a chestnut with a one-man version of existential-crisis-disguised-as-holiday-classic "It's a Wonderful Life," starring local actor Jason Lott, who also co-wrote it. **H Street Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE; through Dec. 30, \$20-\$35; 202-241-2539, Theateralliance.com.**

Local movie times

DISTRICT

AMC Loews Georgetown 14
3111 K Street N.W. www.AMCTheatres.com

Life of Pi (PG) RealD 3D: 11:20-5:20-8:20-11:10
Life of Pi (PG) Digital Presentation: 2:20
Skyfall (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 12:00-3:10-6:40-10:00
Rise of the Guardians (PG) Digital Presentation: 10:10-3:00-8:30
The Guilt Trip (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 10:30-1:00-3:40-6:20-8:50
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) RealD 3D: (!) 10:00-12:50-1:40-4:30-5:40-8:10-9:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:40-2:40-6:30-10:20
Jack Reacher (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 12:15-3:50-7:00-10:10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey An IMAX 3D Experience (PG-13) IMAX 3D: (!) 11:40-3:30-7:15-11:00
Argo (R) Digital Presentation: 10:20-1:10-4:00-6:50-9:40
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) RealD 3D: 10:20-12:40-3:20-6:10-8:40
Silver Linings Playbook (R) Digital Presentation: 10:50-1:50-4:50-7:45-10:50
Rise of the Guardians 3D (PG) RealD 3D: 12:30-6:00
This Is 40 (R) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:10-1:10-4:15-7:30-10:45
Lincoln (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 10:00-1:20-4:40-8:00-11:00

AMC Loews Uptown 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W. www.AMCTheatres.com

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) RealD 3D: (!) 12:30-4:30-8:30

AMC Mazza Gallerie
5300 Wisconsin Ave. N.W. www.AMCTheatres.com

Life of Pi 3D (PG) RealD 3D: 10:40-4:30-7:20-10:10
Life of Pi (PG) Digital Presentation: 1:30
Skyfall (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 10:00-1:10-4:25-7:40-10:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) RealD 3D: 11:30-3:15-7:00-10:40
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:00-1:40-5:20-9:10
Jack Reacher (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 10:30-1:20-4:20-7:30-10:30
This Is 40 (R) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:30-1:50-4:50-7:50-10:50
Lincoln (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 12:30-3:30-7:10-10:25

Avalon
5612 Connecticut Avenue N.W. www.theavalon.org

Argo (R) 11:30-2:00-4:45-7:30
Silver Linings Playbook (R) 12:00-2:45-5:30-8:15

Landmark E Street Cinema
555 11th Street NW www.landmarktheatres.com

Anna Karenina (R) 1:00-2:15-3:45-5:15-6:30-8:15-9:30
The Impossible (PG-13) 1:50-4:35-7:30-10:00
Hyde Park on Hudson (R) 1:45-3:00-4:15-5:30-6:45-8:00-9:15-10:15
The Central Park Five (NR) 1:20-4:10-7:00-9:40
Rust & Bone (De rouille et d'os) (R) 1:40-2:40-7:15-9:55
Hitchcock (PG-13) 2:25-5:05-7:45-10:05

Regal Gallery Place Stadium 14
707 Seventh Street NW www.regalcinemas.com

Monsters, Inc. (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 1:40
Life of Pi 3D (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 11:50-3:00-6:30-9:20
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 8:00-10:45

Skyfall (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:40-3:55-7:20-10:30
Rise of the Guardians (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 1:20-4:30
The Guilt Trip (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 11:20-1:50-4:20-7:40-10:10-12:25

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 12:00-5:30-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 12:00-2:30-3:30-7:30-10:40-11:20

Jack Reacher (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 12:50-4:30-7:50-10:20
Silver Linings Playbook (R) CC-Closed Captions: 12:45-3:40-6:40-9:50-12:30

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 11:10-4:40-7:00-9:40

Lincoln (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:15-3:45-7:15-10:25
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:00-7:00

This Is 40 (R) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:30-3:10-3:50-7:00-10:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) HFR: (!) 11:00-12:10-4:10-6:50-8:00

West End Cinema
2301 M Street NW <http://westendcinema.com>

Argo (R) Best Picture nominee- Golden Globes: 2:20-9:40

MARYLAND
AFI Silver Theatre Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Road www.afisilver.com

Hyde Park on Hudson (R) no passes: (!) 11:05-1:05-3:05-5:10-7:15-9:20
Anna Karenina (R) 11:10-1:45-4:20-7:05-9:40
It's a Wonderful Life (1946) (PG) 7:00
Gremlins (PG) 9:45
The Apartment (NR) 12:30
The Muppet Christmas Carol (G) 3:00
A Christmas Carol (1951) (NR) 5:00

AMC Loews Center Park 8
4001 Powder Mill Rd. www.AMCTheatres.com

Life of Pi 3D (PG) CC-Closed Captions: RealD 3D: 11:15-2:15-5:15-8:10-11:00
The Guilt Trip (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 11:30-2:00-4:30-7:00-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) CC-Closed Captions: RealD 3D: (!) 11:00-2:45-6:30-10:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) CC-Closed Captions: Digital Presentation: (!) 11:00-1:30-5:00-8:45
Jack Reacher (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:30-1:20-4:15-7:15-10:10
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) RealD 3D: (!) 10:15-12:45-3:10-5:30-8:00-10:20
This Is 40 (R) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:45-1:45-4:45-7:45-10:45
Lincoln (PG-13) CC-Closed Captions: Digital Presentation: 11:20-2:30-6:00-9:15

AMC Loews White Flint 5
11301 Rockville Pike www.AMCTheatres.com

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) RealD 3D: 11:15-3:00-6:45-10:20
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 12:30-4:30-8:00-10:20
Jack Reacher (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 1:00-4:15-7:10-10:10
Argo (R) 1:20-4:45-7:45-10:30
Lincoln (PG-13) 12:45-4:00-7:30-10:45

AMC Magic Johnson Capital Center 12
800 Shoppers Way www.AMCTheatres.com

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 10:50-1:50-5:00-10:50

Skyfall (PG-13) Digital Presentation: 6:40-10:10

Rise of the Guardians (PG) Digital Presentation: 10:40-4:10-9:20

The Guilt Trip (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 10:00-12:35-3:10-5:45-8:20-11:10

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) RealD 3D: (!) 12:30-4:30-8:30-10:30

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 9:30-11:30-1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30

Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Digital Presentation: 10:10-3:40

Jack Reacher (PG-13) Digital Presentation: (!) 9:40-10:00-4:20-7:40-11:00

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey An IMAX 3D Experience (PG-13) IMAX 3D: (!) 10:30-2:30-6:30-10:30

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 1:45-4:15-7:30-10:55

Lincoln (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:45-4:15-7:25-10:35

Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 11:00-12:00-7:00

This Is 40 (R) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 11:50-12:00-3:15-6:15-9:20-12:15-15:15-18:15

Hitchcock (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:40-3:00-5:30-8:10-10:30

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) HFR: (!) 12:30-1:50-4:05-5:25-8:05-9:00-11:55-12:25

Landmark Bethesda Row Cinema
7235 Woodmont Avenue www.landmarktheatres.com

Anna Karenina (R) 1:00-2:45-7:10-10:00

Lincoln (PG-13) 1:15-3:00-4:30-6:15-7:45-9:25

Hyde Park on Hudson (R) 1:35-1:55-4:05-4:45-6:30-8:10-9:30-11:10

Hitchcock (PG-13) 1:40-4:00-7:05-9:30

The Impossible (PG-13) 1:45-4:40-7:00-9:35

Rust & Bone (De rouille et d'os) (R) 1:50-4:35-7:15-9:55

Hitchcock (PG-13) 2:25-5:05-7:45-10:05

Regal Bethesda 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue www.regalcinemas.com

Monsters, Inc. (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 4:10

Life of Pi 3D (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 4:10-3:35

Skyfall (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:45-3:45-5:45-7:45-9:45

Rise of the Guardians (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:40-3:20-5:20-7:20-9:20

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:40-3:20-5:20-7:20-9:20

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 1:00-4:00-7:00-10:00

Jack Reacher (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:40

Flight (R) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 9:40-12:40-3:50-6:55-10:55

Argo (R) Digital Presentation: 9:50-12:50-6:50

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) RealD 3D: (!) 9:30-11:20-2:00-4:30-7:05-9:30-12:00

Silver Linings Playbook (R) Digital Presentation: 10:45-1:35-4:40-7:35-10:20

Killing Them Softly (R) Digital Presentation: 6:20-8:55

Regal Hyattsville Royale Stadium 14
6505 America Blvd.

Monsters, Inc. (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 2:30-5:00

The Guilt Trip (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 12:20-2:55-5:20-7:45-10:10

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 11:30-1:30-4:45-6:45-8:45-10:45

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 3:15-7:00

Jack Reacher (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 12:45-2:45-3:55-6:15-7:15-9:20-10:20

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 12:05-7:35-10:30

This Is 40 (R) CC/DVS: 1:00-3:05-4:15-6:30-7:30-9:35-10:35

Regal Majestic 20 & IMAX
900 Ellsworth Drive

Monsters, Inc. (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 1:35

Life of Pi 3D (PG) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 3:40-9:20

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) CC/DVS: 1:00-6:00-9:10-12:30

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) CC/DVS: 1:15-3:55-6:05-8:25

Rise of the Guardians (PG) CC/DVS: 1:25-3:50-6:35-9:10-11:40

The Guilt Trip (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 2:20-5:00-8:40-10:40-12:20

Silver Linings Playbook (R) CC-DVS-Closed Captions: 1:12-20-2:30-3:30-5:30-6:00-8:00-10:45

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey An IMAX 3D Experience in HFR (PG-13) IMAX 3D: (!) 10:35-2:25-6:15-10:10

Regal Ballston Common 12
671 N. Glebe Road

Monsters, Inc. (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 4:10

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2 (PG-13) CC/DVS: 12:10-2:15-5:15-7:15-10:40

Skyfall (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:30-3:35-6:30-9:30-10:40

Rise of the Guardians (PG) CC/DVS: 2:10-4:40-7:10-9:40

Argo (R) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:30-10:40

Playing for Keeps (PG-13) CC/DVS: 1:15-3:25-5:30-7:30-10:20

Jack Reacher (PG-13) CC/DVS: (!) 12:50-1:10-2:30-3:50-4:20-6:30-7:20-9:20-10:50-11:40

Lincoln (PG-13) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: 12:40-3:40-5:40-7:40-9:40

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) CC/DVS-Closed Captions & Descriptive Video Service: (!) 12:40-3:40-5:40-7:40-9:40

Hyde Park on Hudson (R) CC-DVS: 12:30-2:30-5:20-7:50-10:10-11:40

This Is 40 (R) CC/DVS: 1:20-3:10-3:40-4:30-6:10-6:40-7:30-9:10-10:20-10:30

Regal Kingstowne 16 & RPX
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center

Skyfall (PG-13) CC-Open Caption: 1:05

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) HFR: (!) 2:00-6:00-9:45

Skyfall (PG-13) 1:25-3:30-10:35

Rise of the Guardians (PG) 12:10-2:35-4:55-7:45

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Rockville, Md Petco
Sterling, Va Petsmart
Alexandria, Va Petsmart
Tysons Corner, Petsmart

Fri: 6:30-8:30
Sat: 12-3pm
Sun: 1-4pm

Sat, 1-4pm
Sun, 12-3pm
Sun, 1-4pm

Sun, 12-3pm
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Sat, 12-3pm

Sun, 1-4pm

Sun, 1-4pm

Sun, 1-4pm

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Fri, 6:30-8:30
Sat, 12-3pm

Sun, 1-4pm

Sun, 1-4pm

Sun, 1-4pm

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Sat, 12-3pm

Sun, 1-4pm

lookout online



If the world ends before I get my twitter archives I'm going to be pissed.

—@SAMIR is hoping that the social networking site's new feature that will allow anyone to download all of their tweets will be available soon.

"How do I want to be remembered? Preppy and respectable? Chic and regal? Should I wear something travel comfortable? Something for warm weather (as I clearly am headed on the express bus to hell)? Or should I go all out like the diva I am?"

—SYDROCK AT CAPITALSARCASM.BLOGSPOT.COM is having trouble deciding what to wear ahead of the pending apocalypse as predicted by the Mayans.



Blog Log



"That suit sure takes a beating ... I bet he's got a great deal on Chinese made parts."

—RICOSUAVE AT COMING.SOON.NET reacts to a new photo released by Marvel Studios from "Iron Man 3," which is set for release May 3.

"The #myspacetom hashtag is now in full effect, reminding us that a) MySpace Tom was dominating the Internet before it was even cool, and b) you should never [mess] with MySpace Tom."

—CEDAR PASORI AT COMPLEX.COM shows deference to the creator of the old social networking site, who recently responded to a fan on Twitter regarding a question about his old avatar: "If I used a new pic it would break the Internet; my pic has been viewed more [than] the mona lisa."

"Really ABC Family? You take off 'Boy Meets World' & put on '90210' this morning. Smh"

—@COACHINTZ41, along with many, many others, was extremely upset about a programming mix-up Thursday.



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puzzles lookout

Horoscope

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're eager to have one or two of your dreams come true, and today you can do something to see that progress is made in that direction.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You are not stuck in a rut, but neither are you working at peak efficiency or creativity. Something is slowing you down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You may feel as though you are further from what is important to you today than you would prefer. This can be reversed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You must keep an eye on things as they develop. Are you willing to judge yourself honestly, every step of the way?

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your interaction with others will be colored by your inability to see things in a modern way. It's time for an upgrade!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Someone much younger than you will provide you with information you need to progress at a faster pace — and at a higher level of efficiency.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Are you really calling the shots? You may think that you're in charge, but a reminder comes to you that indicates this is not really the case.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You can demonstrate significant know-how — though there will be someone who is able to compete with you head-to-head.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You mustn't give orders without determining how best to convey instructions and inspire those around you at the same time.

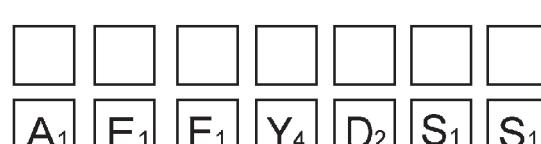
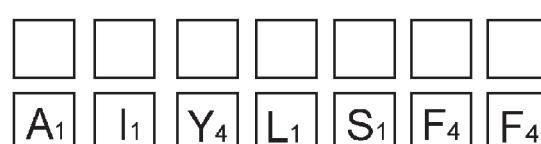
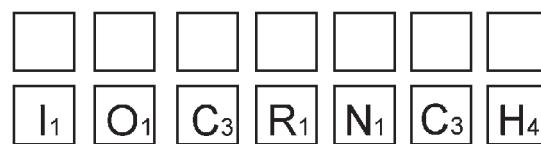
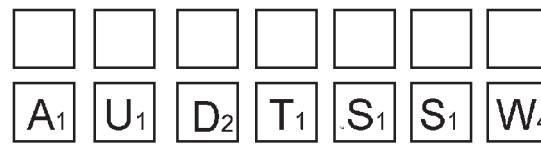
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You feel that you are being misled by someone whose attempts to rise beyond his or her station are causing you to react in an unusual fashion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your intentions must not be in doubt. Focus on those endeavors that come from the heart. Any deception must be avoided.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) You can put the pieces of a puzzle together in such a way that others are drawn to both the questions you are asking and the answers.

Scrabble Grams

PAR SCORE 200-210, BEST SCORE 288



2nd Letter Double

Triple Word Score



Yesterday's Solution

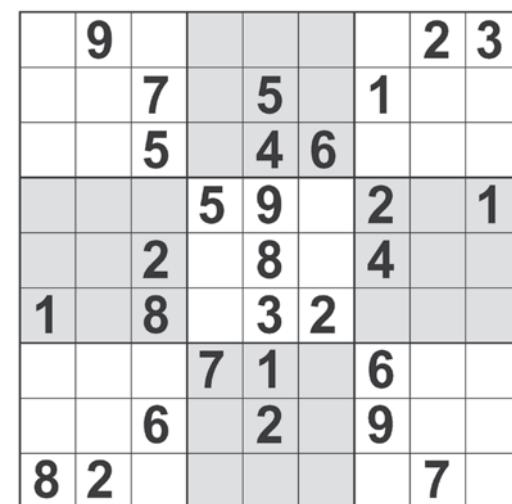
K ₅	I ₁	L ₁	O ₁	R ₁	A ₁	D ₂	RACK 1 =	62
P ₃	S ₁	Y ₄	C ₃	H ₄	I ₁	C ₃	RACK 2 =	107
A ₁	U ₁	D ₂	I ₁	T ₁	E ₁	E ₁	RACK 3 =	58
H ₄	A ₁	R ₁	M ₃	F ₄	U ₁	L ₁	RACK 4 =	66
							TOTAL	293
								PAR SCORE 195-205

FOUR RACK TOTAL

Make a 2-7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. Seven-letter words get a 50-point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. Scrabble is a trademark of Hasbro in the U.S. and Canada.

Sudoku

DIFFICULT



Yesterday's Solution

5	1	7	6	2	4	3	8	9
2	8	6	7	3	9	1	5	4
4	3	9	8	1	5	6	2	7
8	7	1	2	5	3	9	4	6
9	2	5	4	6	7	8	3	1
6	4	3	9	8	1	2	7	5
7	6	4	3	9	8	5	1	2
3	5	2	1	7	6	4	9	8
1	9	8	5	4	2	7	6	3

Need more Sudoku?
Find another puzzle in the Comics section of The Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

Comics

POOCH CAFE | PAUL GILLIGAN



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | STEPHAN PASTIS



Forecast



48 | 33

Today: Windy today with clouds and sun. Partly cloudy and windy tonight.



45 | 32

Tomorrow: Very windy tomorrow; partly sunny. Mainly clear tomorrow night.

Looking Ahead



SUN

MON

TUE

48 | 31 | 43 | 32 | 45 | 33

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today: 7:23 a.m.

Sunset today: 4:50 p.m.

Moonrise today: 12:33 p.m.

Normal low: 31°

Moonset today: 1:10 a.m.

Record low: 2°

Almanac

Normal high: 45°

Record high: 66°

Normal low: 31°

Record low: 2°

FORECAST BY ACCUWEATHER.COM ©2012

people lookout



UNFAIR

'Here's Some Combination Birthday-Christmas Milk'

Claire Danes and Hugh Dancy have welcomed a baby boy named Cyrus Michael Christopher, their rep confirmed. It's the first child for Danes, 33, and Dancy, 37. They were married in 2009. There's no word yet whether the new mom will attend the Golden Globe Awards on Jan. 13. She's nominated for Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series for her work on "Homeland." (AP)



Hugh was miffed. Claire was wearing one of their shower curtains — again.

DOOM

California Hamster Assoc. Reading Too Much Tolkien

The California Hamster Association told TMZ.com that Justin Bieber sentenced his hamster, PAC, to certain death when he gave the creature to a fan outside a concert. "The moment that hamster was handed off to a screaming girl in a harsh, frenzied environment was likely the moment it gazed at the short path to its doom," a rep said. At press time, PAC was alive. (EXPRESS)

Victims

**Of Course There Are Nude Photos**

Radaronline.com reports that the steamy photos of Coco and rapper AP.9 are not all Ice-T has to worry about. Coco told her husband the photos were entirely innocent; AP.9 is saying otherwise, according to unnamed sources. He claims to have photos of Coco naked and is "putting feelers out to see if people want to buy [them]," a source said. (EXPRESS)

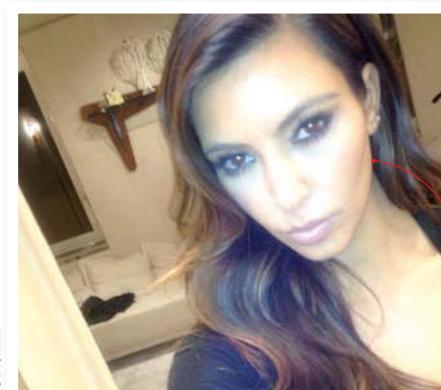


And so Queenelizabethlookingdisdainfullyatthings.tumblr.com was born.

3-D ACTION

'And Now, a Giant Corgi Will Flatten London'

She made her acting debut at the London Olympics. Now Queen Elizabeth II is hitting the screen again — in 3-D. Buckingham Palace says the monarch was "ready to embrace something new" for her annual Christmas broadcast in honor of her Diamond Jubilee year — 60 years on the throne. The Queen has made a prerecorded Christmas broadcast on radio since 1952 and on television since 1957. (AP)



INEVITABLE

Kimstagram: It's Coming — No One Can Stop It

Kim Kardashian is threatening to dump Instagram and move her photos to a rival company, unnamed sources tell TMZ.com. The photo-sharing service issued new policies this week that suggested Instagram could sell user photos to outside companies. (Instagram says that's not true.) With more than 5.7 million followers, Kardashian is Instagram's top user. In other news, a widely circulated photo of Kardashian with bangs turned out to be a false alarm: The bangs were clip-ons. (EXPRESS)

One reality star, 5.7 millions followers, zero understanding of depth of field.

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